Rumble

スクールランブル

小林尽

Vol. 9

Jin Kobayashi

School Rumble

9

Jin Kobayashi

TRANSLATED AND ADAPTED BY
William Flanagan

LETTERED BY
Michaelis/Carpelis Design

School Rumble volume 9 is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places, and incidents are the products of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual events, locales, or persons, living or dead, is entirely coincidental.

School Rumble copyright © 2007 by Jin Kobayashi
English translation copyright © 2008 by Jin Kobayashi

Publication rights arranged through Kodansha Ltd.

All rights reserved.

Publication rights arranged through Kodansha Ltd.

First published in Japan in 2005 by Kodansha Ltd., Tokyo.

Translated and adapted: William Flanagan
Lettering: Michaelis/Carpelis Design

Honorifics Explained

In this manga book, you will find Japanese honorifics left intact in the translations. For those not familiar with how the Japanese use honorifics and, more important, how they differ from American honorifics, we present this brief overview.

Politeness has always been a critical facet of Japanese culture. Ever since the feudal era, when Japan was a highly stratified society, use of honorifics—which can be defined as polite speech that indicates relationship or status—has played an essential role in the Japanese language. When addressing someone in Japanese, an honorific usually takes the form of a suffix attached to one's name (example: "Asuna-san"), is used as a title at the end of one's name, or appears in place of the name itself (example: "Negi-sensei," or simply "Sensei!").

Honorifics can be expressions of respect or endearment. In the context of manga and anime, honorifics give insight into the nature of the relationship between characters. Many English translations leave out these important honorifics and therefore distort the feel of the original Japanese. Because Japanese honorifics contain nuances that English honorifics lack, it is our policy not to translate them. Here, instead, is a guide to some of the honorifics you may encounter in our manga.

-san: This is the most common honorific and is equivalent to Mr., Miss, Ms., Mrs. It is the all-purpose honorific and can be used in any situation where politeness is required.

-sama: This is one level higher than "-san" and is used to confer great respect.

-dono: This comes from the word "tono," which means "lord." It is an even higher level than "-sama" and confers utmost respect.

-kun: This suffix is used at the end of boys' names to express familiarity or endearment. It is also sometimes used by men among friends, or when addressing someone younger or of a lower station.

-chan: This is used to express endearment, mostly toward girls. It is also used for little boys, pets, and even among lovers. It gives a sense of childish cuteness.

Bozu: This is an informal way to refer to a boy, similar to the English terms "kid" and "squirt."

Sempai/Senpai: This title suggests that the addressee is one's senior in a group or organization. It is most often used in a school setting, where underclassmen refer to their upperclassmen as "sempai." It can also be used in the workplace, such as when a newer employee addresses an employee who has seniority in the company.

Kohai: This is the opposite of "sempai" and is used toward underclassmen in school or newcomers in the workplace. It connotes that the addressee is of a lower station.

Sensei: Literally meaning "one who has come before," this title is used for teachers, doctors, or masters of any profession or art.

-[blank]: This is usually forgotten in these lists, but it is perhaps the most significant difference between Japanese and English. The lack of honorific means that the speaker has permission to address the person in a very intimate way. Usually, only family, spouses, or very close friends have this kind of permission. Known as *yobisute*, it can be gratifying when someone who has earned the intimacy starts to call one by one's name without an honorific. But when that intimacy hasn't been earned, it can be very insulting.

Cultural Note

To preserve some of the humor found in *School Rumble*, we have elected to keep Japanese names in their original Japanese order—that is to say, with the family name first, followed by the personal name. So when you hear the name Tsukamoto Tenma, Tenma is just one member of the Tsukamoto family.

School Rumble 9

Jin Kobayashi

Tenma & Yakumo

Contents

♯109 SLEEPING WITH THE ENEMY 003
♯110 THINGS I NEVER TOLD YOU 015
♯111 A CHANGE OF SEASONS 027
♯112 FINDING FORRESTER 039
♯113 THE ODD COUPLE 051
♯114 VENOM 063
♯115 SHE'S THE ONE 075
♯116 SMALL-TIME CROOKS 087
♯117 MRS. DOUBTFIRE 099
♯118 CARNIVAL STORY 111
♯119 A NOUS DEUX 123
♭24 AN UNSUITABLE JOB FOR A WOMAN 135
♭25 MONSTERS INC. 143
♭26 AMORE E CHIACCHIERE 151

#109 | SLEEPING WITH THE ENEMY

ZHICH
WA!! WAA-AH!!
M-MY AIM...
KACHIK KACHIK
.....?!
UM...
UH...
NO! I WON'T LET YOU SHOOT SAGANO!
AAH!!
YOU CAN'T HIT ME FROM THIS CLOSE, HUH?
KACHIK KACHIK
GRMP
B-BUT NEITHER CAN YOU, SUÔ-SAN...!
SHK

CHK
チャッ
EH...?!
S-SAGANO! S-SUÔ-SAN! I'LL HAVE TO SHOOT YOU NOW!
WHOOSH
KYAAA!!
WHUD
SHK
!!
BA-BAM

Winner: Miko-chin.

H-HARIMA!!
GEHH
K-CHIK
K-CHIK
NO! OUT OF AMMO!!

KRL KRL KRL KRL
AH!!
KAK
WHOOSH
.....
JUST SHOOT ME!
CHAK
NO.
I CAN'T DO IT YET.
HOLD IT RIGHT THERE, HARIMA!!

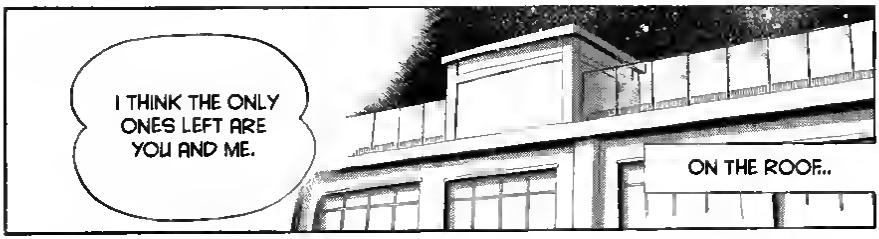
GMH
……!
キリリ…
GLK
BLAMM
THAT WAS JUST TOO BAD, HUH?

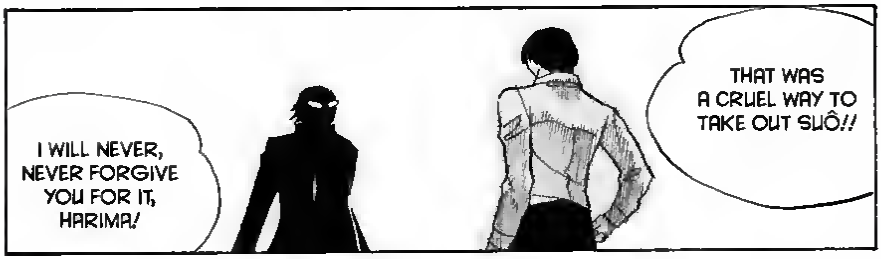
MIKO-
CHAAAANN!!!
HEHN/

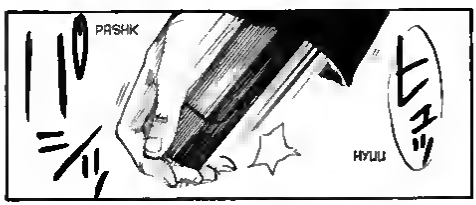
IT SEEMS TIME FOR THE FINAL ACT.
NO MATTER HOW IT TURNS OUT, WE OF THE BAND ARMY WON'T WIN.
AND WHO IS LEFT? HANAI-KUN AND SUÔ-SAN? HARIMA-KUN MAYBE?
THEN... WHY DID YOU SHOOT ERI-CHAN, KARASUMA-KUN?
WE LOST THE LOTTERY, AND OUR CHANCE TO APPEAR AT THE CULTURAL FESTIVAL.
WILL YOU ACCEPT "ENTHUSIASM" AS A REASON, TSUKAMOTO-SAN?
WE WERE LEFT WITH NO OTHER OPTION THAN TO WIN THIS BATTLE.

WE WERE TOO PROUD TO SIMPLY GIVE UP.
AND YET, THAT WAS NOTHING BUT OUR OWN SELFISHNESS.
YOU TOO, KARASUMA-KUN.
YOU GUYS REALLY PRACTICED YOUR HEARTS OUT, HUH? TSUMUGI-CHAN, KARERIN, FUYUKI-KUN, AND, OF COURSE...
MAKE SURE IT'S A GOOD CONCERT, OKAY?

GRATCH
ISN'T IT ABOUT TIME, TAKANO-SAN?
I SUP-POSE SO.
THANK YOU, TSUKAMOTO-SAN... BUT... I THINK I WILL BE THE ONE TAKEN OUT OF THE GAME.
SHAKE SHAKE
.....
KARASUMA-KUN...


I THINK THE ONLY ONES LEFT ARE YOU AND ME.
ON THE ROOF..


I WILL NEVER, NEVER FORGIVE YOU FOR IT, HARIMA!
THAT WAS A CRUEL WAY TO TAKE OUT SUÔ!!


PASHK
HYUU

HYUU
PASHK

WHEN DID I EVER ASK YOUR FORGIVE-NESS?!
CHAK

109 · · · · · · · · · Fin

HERE ON THE ROOF, THEY'VE SET ASIDE ALL SORTS OF SUPPLIES FOR THE CULTURAL FESTIVAL... MY ONLY CHANCE IS TO UTILIZE IT IN MY STRATEGY.
PROBABLY HARIMA ISN'T YET AT THE END OF HIS ROPE WITH REGARD TO AMMO AND EQUIPMENT, BUT I...

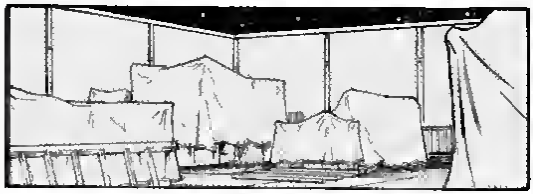
#110 THINGS I NEVER TOLD YOU

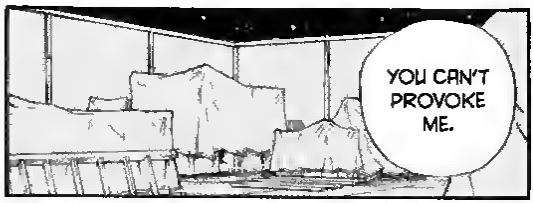
...NOT THAT TYPE OF MAN!!

SHAK
BLAM BLAM BLAM BLAM
BLAM BLAM BLAM

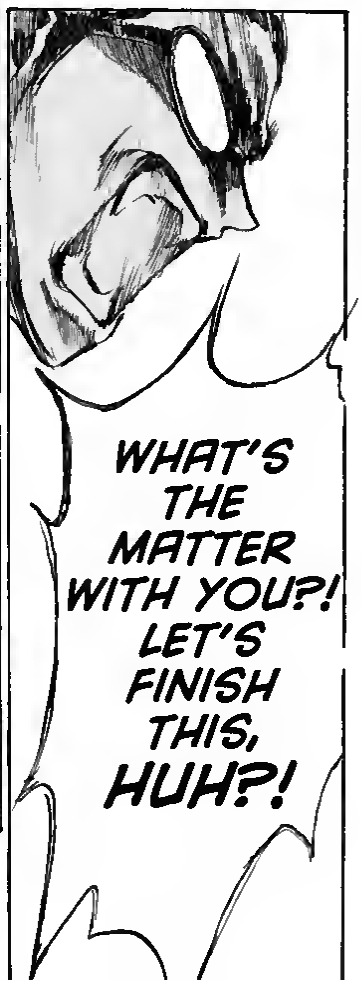
BLAM BLAM
BLAM BLAM BLAM
UNF/
KANNG
SHACHING
SHK SHK
SHK
SHK
KARANG
KARANG
KARANG
KARANG
SHACHING
SHACHING
BLAM BLAM
BLAM BLAM
BLAM BLAM
BLAM BLAM
SHK SHK
SHK
SHK

HYAAAAAH!!!
GRAA AA



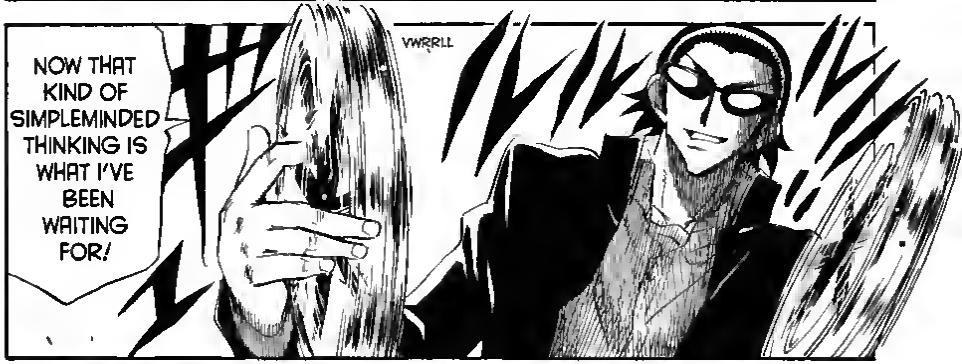

YOU CAN'T PROVOKE ME.

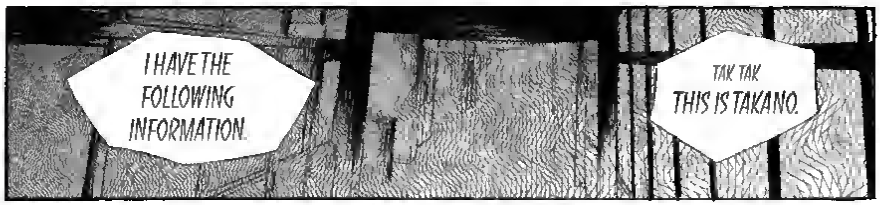
IT'S IMPORTANT, SO I WANT YOU TO ANSWER HONESTLY.
HARIMA, I HAVE ONE QUESTION FOR YOU.

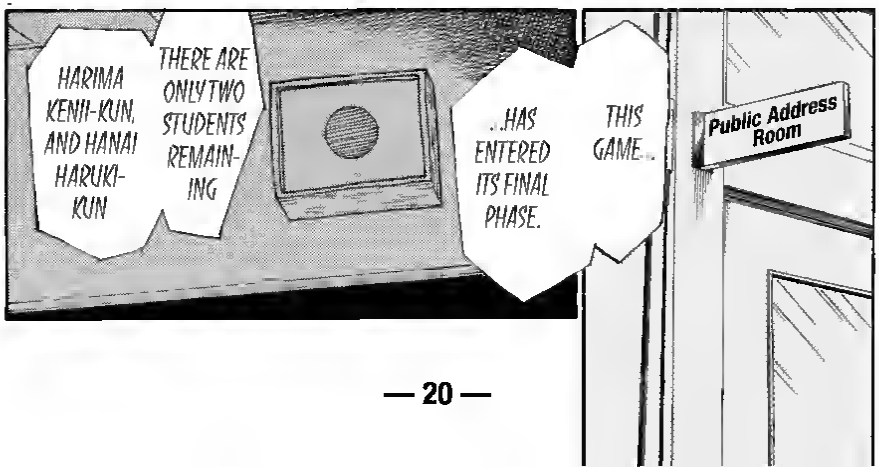

WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH YOU?! LET'S FINISH THIS, HUH?!

DO YOU LOVE YAKUMO-KUN FROM THE BOTTOM OF YOUR HEART?
HUH?
.....
IF YOU WANT AN ANSWER, COME AND GET IT OUT OF ME!
WHY DO I HAVE TO SAY ANYTHING TO YOU?
SHK
.....
YOU REALLY ARE A FOOL
I HAVE CONSIDERED YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH YAKUMO-KUN FROM MANY DIFFERENT ANGLES. WHAT I WANT TO KNOW IS...
OH, HO!
.....!!
DO YOU LOVE HER FROM THE BOTTOM OF YOUR HEART? JUST THAT

SHAK!!
WE'LL FINISH THIS THROUGH QUICK-DRAW!!


NOW THAT KIND OF SIMPLEMINDED THINKING IS WHAT I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR!
VWRRLL


I HAVE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION.
TAK TAK
THIS IS TAKANO.


HARIMA KENJI-KUN, AND HANAI HARUKI-KUN
THERE ARE ONLY TWO STUDENTS REMAINING
..HAS ENTERED ITS FINAL PHASE.
THIS GAME...
Public Address Room

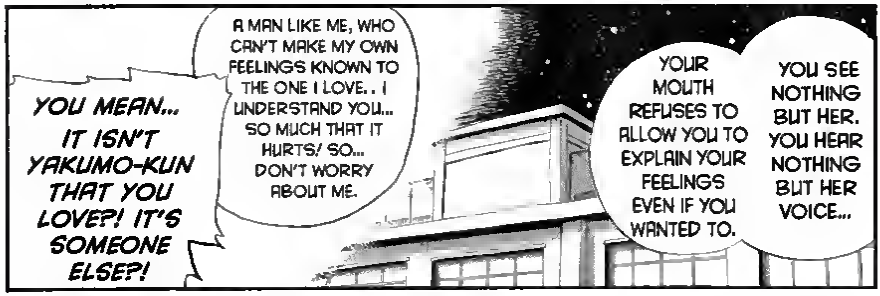
THE CONTEST BETWEEN THESE TWO MEN WILL DETERMINE THE FUTURE OF CLASS 2-C.
IF HARIMA-KUN WINS, WE PERFORM A PLAY IF HANAI-KUN WINS, WE'LL HAVE A CAFÉ.
JUST AS YOU ASKED FOR, I'LL FORCE THE ANSWER OUT OF YOU.
YOU UNDERSTAND THE RULES, RIGHT? WE WALK TEN PACES, TURN, AND SHOOT.
JUST TO MAKE SURE... WHEN I TURN AROUND, YOU BETTER NOT HAVE GONE SCAMPERING OFF SOMEPLACE.
HEH!
SHKK
START!!
2!!
1!!

3!!
4!!
5!!
6!!
7!!
8!!

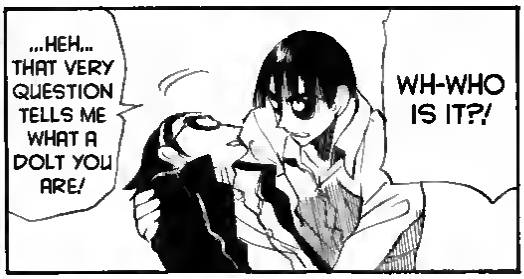
9!!
DOOM

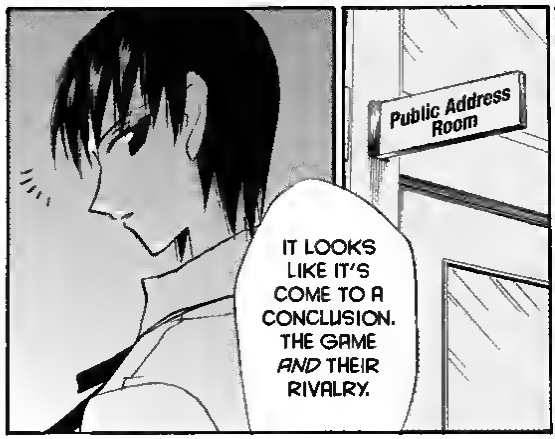
HUUSHH
SHUNK
HEHN.
KLANG
WHUD
SHK
HARIMA...
WHY? IF YOU HAD SIMPLY CONTINUED FIGHTING, YOU WOULD HAVE WON EVENTUALLY...
I HAD HARDLY ANY AMMO LEFT...

IT'S BECAUSE I KNEW YOU HAD REALLY FALLEN FOR HER...
.....
HAHH...


A MAN LIKE ME, WHO CAN'T MAKE MY OWN FEELINGS KNOWN TO THE ONE I LOVE.. I UNDERSTAND YOU... SO MUCH THAT IT HURTS/ SO... DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME.
YOU MEAN... IT ISN'T YAKUMO-KUN THAT YOU LOVE?! IT'S SOMEONE ELSE?!
YOUR MOUTH REFUSES TO ALLOW YOU TO EXPLAIN YOUR FEELINGS EVEN IF YOU WANTED TO.
YOU SEE NOTHING BUT HER. YOU HEAR NOTHING BUT HER VOICE...

SLUMP


...HEH... THAT VERY QUESTION TELLS ME WHAT A DOLT YOU ARE!
WH-WHO IS IT?!


Public Address Room
IT LOOKS LIKE IT'S COME TO A CONCLUSION. THE GAME AND THEIR RIVALRY.

HARI-MAAAAA!!!

OSAKABE-SENSEI, I'M SORRY TO HAVE DRAGGED YOU INTO THIS.
IT DOESN'T BOTHER ME. YOU'VE PUT YOURSELF THROUGH A BIT OF TROUBLE FOR THIS TOO, RIGHT?
IS THE BATTLE FINISHED BETWEEN YOU AND THAT STRANGE PERSON?
IT'S FINE. FORGET ABOUT IT.
I JUST HOPE THOSE TWO CAN GO BACK TO NORMAL AFTER THIS.
THANK YOU VERY MUCH, SENSEI.
NOW THE PEOPLE OF 2-C CAN HAVE THEIR CULTURAL FAIR.
WELL... THE TIME TO FIGHT OVER MATTERS SUCH AS THIS...
...IS NOW AND ONLY NOW
UM... HEY. HOW LONG ARE WE SUPPOSED TO PLAY DEAD LIKE THIS?
I DON'T KNOW...

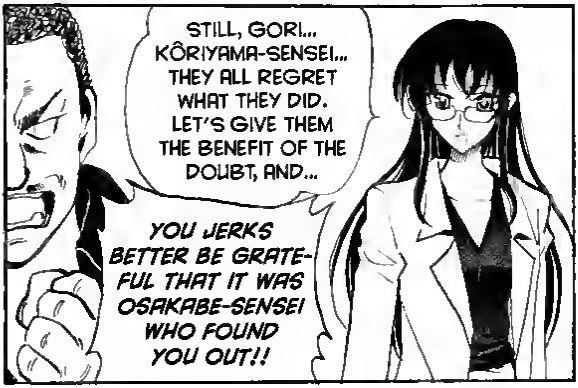
110 · · · · · · · · · Fin

#111 A CHANGE OF SEASONS

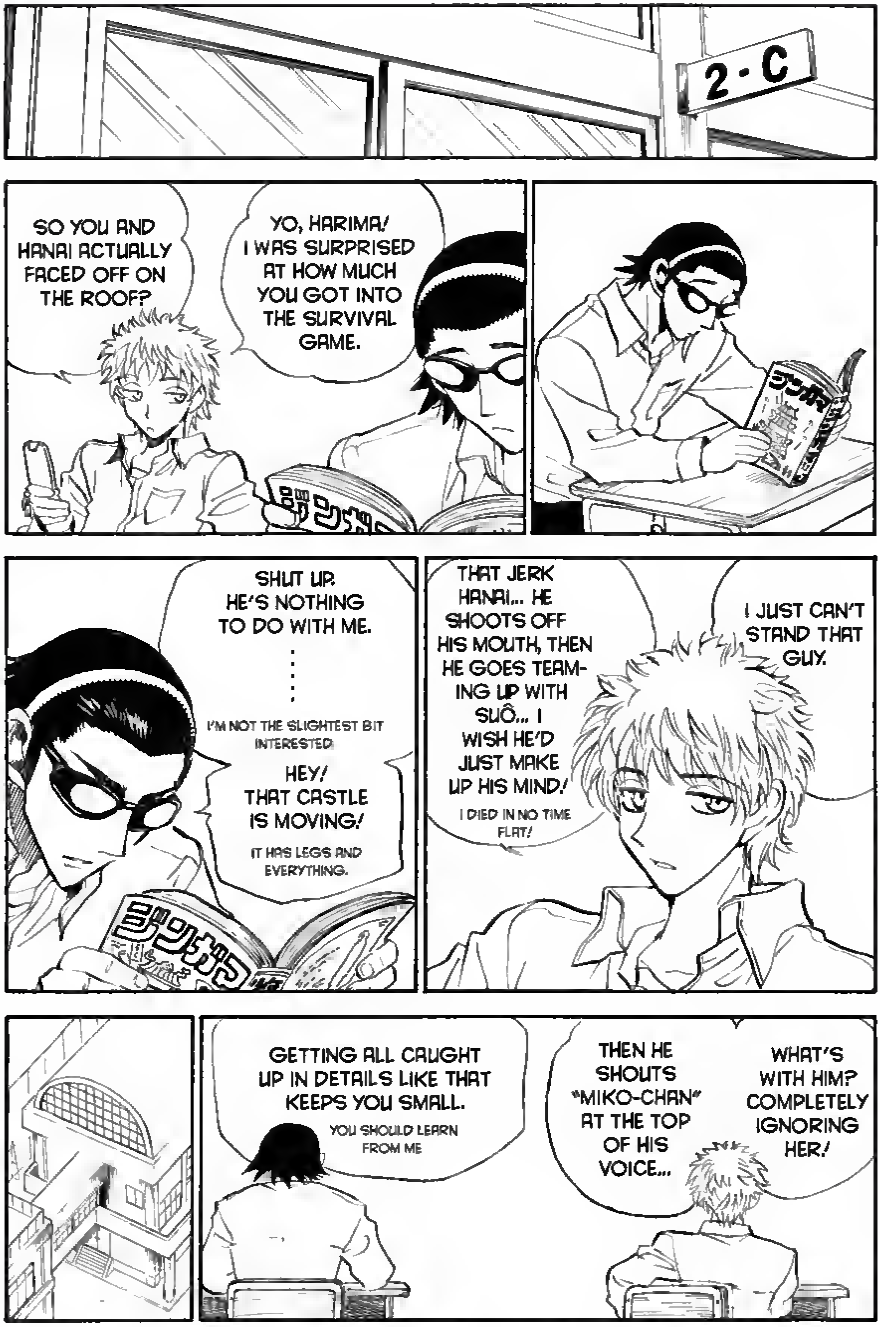
GM GM GM GM GM
GM GM GM GM GM

ISN'T IT ABOUT TIME YOU LEARNED A LITTLE GOOD SENSE?! HUH?!
YOU'RE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS NOW! YOU'RE LIKE ADULTS!
BUT IT WON'T DO ANY GOOD!
I KNOW EXACTLY WHAT YOU PUNKS WANT TO SAY.

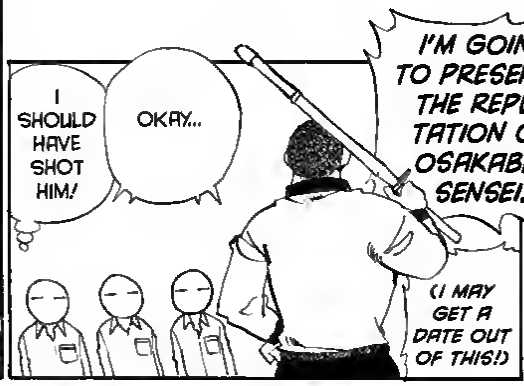
EVEN YOU, ICHIJÔ! AND YOU'RE A MODEL STUDENT!!
YOU MAKE YOUR COACH SAD! WELL?!
I-I'M SORRY...


STILL, GORI... KÔRIYAMA-SENSEI... THEY ALL REGRET WHAT THEY DID. LET'S GIVE THEM THE BENEFIT OF THE DOUBT, AND...
YOU JERKS BETTER BE GRATEFUL THAT IT WAS OSAKABE-SENSEI WHO FOUND YOU OUT!!

YOU WENT!! AND SNUCK!!
INTO THE SCHOOL!! IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT!!
I'VE NEVER HEARD OF ANYBODY PLAYING WAR IN ALL MY YEARS!!!
URH...
MAI-CHAN...

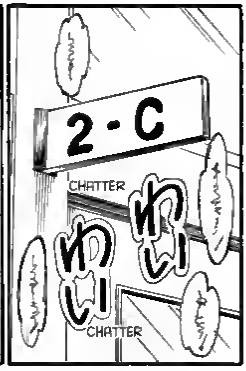

2-C
SO YOU AND HANAI ACTUALLY FACED OFF ON THE ROOF?
YO, HARIMA! I WAS SURPRISED AT HOW MUCH YOU GOT INTO THE SURVIVAL GAME.
SHUT UP. HE'S NOTHING TO DO WITH ME.
I'M NOT THE SLIGHTEST BIT INTERESTED.
HEY! THAT CASTLE IS MOVING!
IT HAS LEGS AND EVERYTHING.
THAT JERK HANAI... HE SHOOTS OFF HIS MOUTH, THEN HE GOES TEAMING UP WITH SUÔ... I WISH HE'D JUST MAKE UP HIS MIND!
I DIED IN NO TIME FLAT!
I JUST CAN'T STAND THAT GUY.
GETTING ALL CAUGHT UP IN DETAILS LIKE THAT KEEPS YOU SMALL.
YOU SHOULD LEARN FROM ME
THEN HE SHOUTS "MIKO-CHAN" AT THE TOP OF HIS VOICE...
WHAT'S WITH HIM? COMPLETELY IGNORING HER!

KRAK
BUT!!

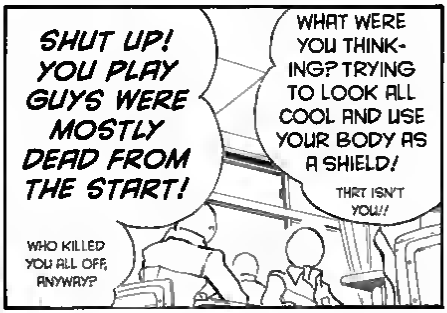

I SHOULD HAVE SHOT HIM!
OKAY...
I'M GOING TO PRESERVE THE REPUTATION OF OSAKABE-SENSEI.
(I MAY GET A DATE OUT OF THIS!)

GOT IT?!!
DOOM
IF DECIDING ON WHAT TO DO FOR THE FAIR GOT YOU TO THIS...
THEN JUST DO BOTH!!
YOU GUYS ARE SUCH A PAIN!

HEH HEH... I WAS ABLE TO HOLD OUT ALMOST TO THE END.
I WAS PRETTY CONFIDENT IN MY MARKSMANSHIP.
I WAS PRETTY GOOD, HUH?
MAN, THAT WAS FUN LAST NIGHT!!

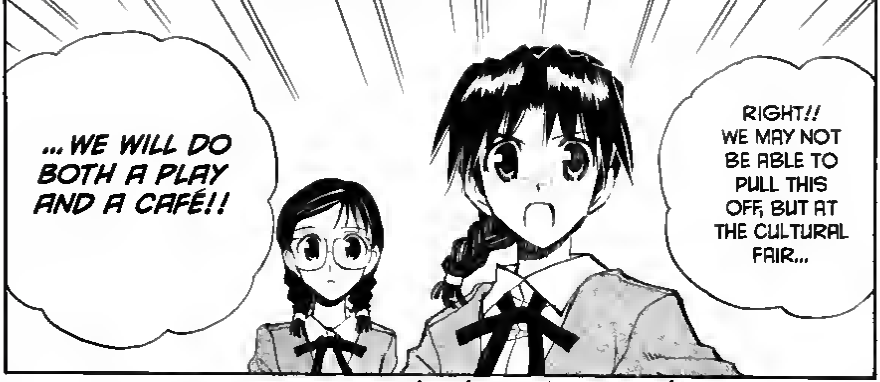

2-C
CHATTER
CHATTER

I'M NOT! IMADORI-KUN WENT AND...
I NEVER EXPECTED YOU TO BE A DRAMA FAN, KOZUE!
I SAW YOU!


SHUT UP! YOU PLAY GUYS WERE MOSTLY DEAD FROM THE START!
WHO KILLED YOU ALL OFF, ANYWAY?
WHAT WERE YOU THINKING? TRYING TO LOOK ALL COOL AND USE YOUR BODY AS A SHIELD!
THAT ISN'T YOU!!

I DIDN'T SEE ANY-THING OF THE SORT.
HUH? HUH? SAWACHIKA, DIDN'T YOU SEE?!
THAT PERVERT WITH THE MUSTACHE!
IT ISN'T POSSIBLE! SAWACHIKA WAS ON FLAG-GUARD DUTY THE WHOLE TIME!
BELIEVE ME!! SOME OLD GUY WITH A MUSTACHE WAS DRESSED UP LIKE SAWACHIKA!!
PEEP PEEP
CHATTER CHATTER
CHATTER CHATTER
OH, COME ON! OF COURSE I WAS!
YOU'RE SUCH A WORRIER, SHIGEO!
UM... YOU WERE JUST PLAY-ING A PART, RIGHT, MADOKA ...?
WELL, WE GOT CARRIED AWAY OURSELVES!!
やんや やんや
CHATTER CHATTER
EVERYONE, THANK YOU FOR YOUR ASSISTANCE YESTERDAY.
OF COURSE, IN THE MIDST OF THINGS WE DEPARTED FROM THE SCRIPT.
EH?!
GMP
YOU CAN ALL RELAX.
WE DON'T HAVE TIME TO PREPARE... WE'RE IN TROUBLE!
DO WE REALLY HAVE THE RESOURCES TO DO BOTH A PLAY AND THE CAFÉ?
BUT IN THE END, WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO ABOUT THE CULTURAL FAIR?

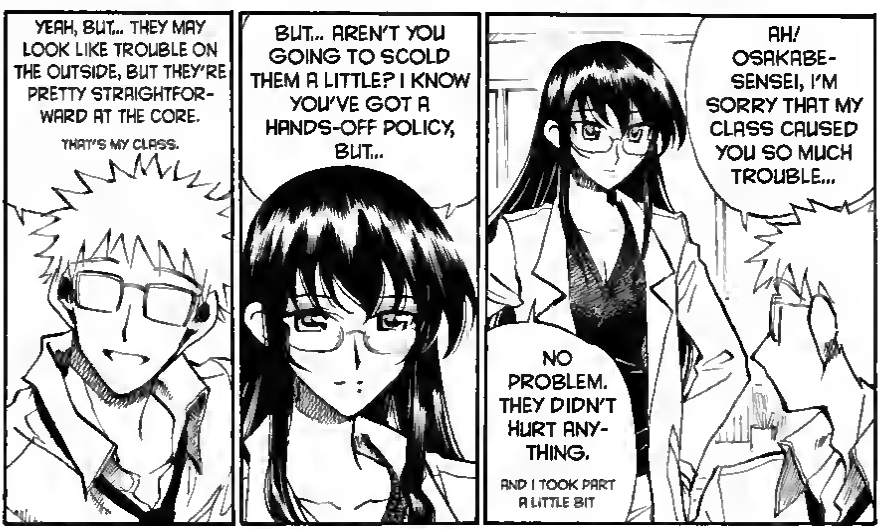
HUH? YOU CAN DO THAT, HANAI?!
I WILL NEGOTIATE DIRECTLY WITH THE CULTURAL FAIR PROMOTION COMMITTEE TO ENSURE THAT WE DO BOTH A CAFÉ AND A PLAY!!
WE'LL TAKE THE MATTER UNDER MY LEADER-SHIP.
YOU MAKE ME WANT TO SAY, "IF YOU HAVE THE WILL TO HANDLE A SURVIVAL GAME, THEN PUT IT TO USE FOR THE GREATER GOOD!!"
CHATTER
さわ
CHATTER
さわ
CHATTER
さわ
FROM WHERE I SEE IT, THIS CLASS HOUSES A CONSIDERABLE COLLECTION OF PROBLEM STUDENTS.
HOWEVER!! IT'S BECAUSE YOU PEOPLE ARE WHO YOU ARE THAT I FEEL WE CAN PUT ON A CULTURAL FAIR LIKE NO OTHER!!
TRUE! I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT WE'RE SUPPOSED TO DO, BUT YOUR SPEECH MAKES ME WANT TO DO IT!!
NOBODY KNOWS WHAT THE HECK YOU'RE SAY-ING, BUT YOU'RE SAYING IT WITH FORCE!!

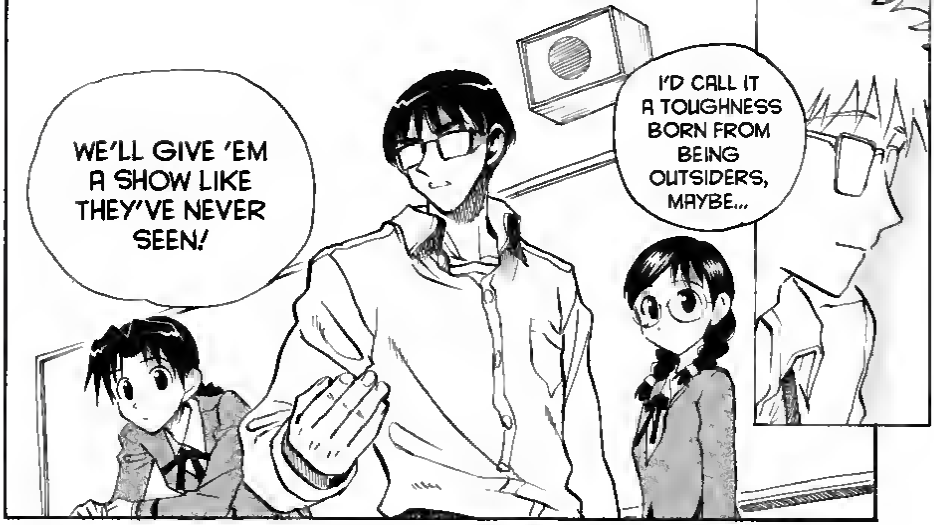

...WE WILL DO BOTH A PLAY AND A CAFÉ!!
RIGHT!! WE MAY NOT BE ABLE TO PULL THIS OFF, BUT AT THE CULTURAL FAIR...

おおおおっ!!
YEAAAHH!!

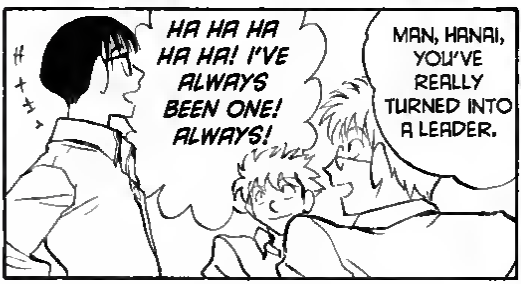
HUH?
SQUEE
TANI-SENSEI...

Faculty Room

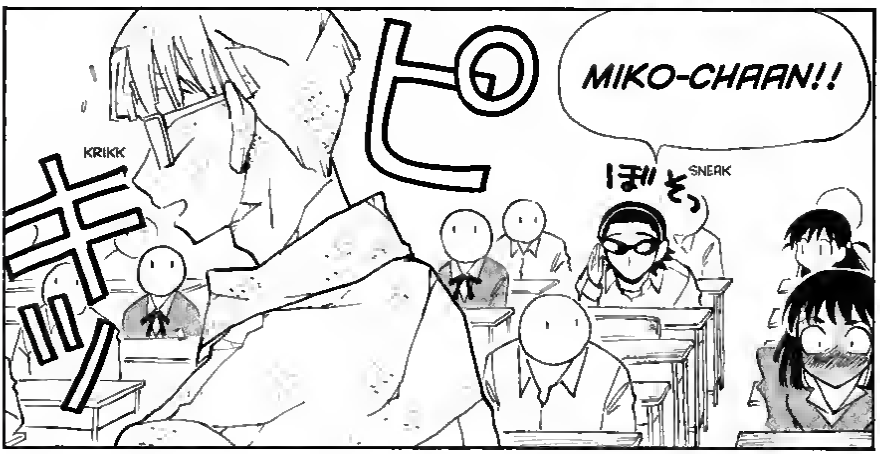

YEAH, BUT... THEY MAY LOOK LIKE TROUBLE ON THE OUTSIDE, BUT THEY'RE PRETTY STRAIGHTFORWARD AT THE CORE.
THAT'S MY CLASS.
BUT... AREN'T YOU GOING TO SCOLD THEM A LITTLE? I KNOW YOU'VE GOT A HANDS-OFF POLICY, BUT...
NO PROBLEM. THEY DIDN'T HURT ANYTHING.
AND I TOOK PART A LITTLE BIT
AH! OSAKABE-SENSEI, I'M SORRY THAT MY CLASS CAUSED YOU SO MUCH TROUBLE...


WE'LL GIVE 'EM A SHOW LIKE THEY'VE NEVER SEEN!
I'D CALL IT A TOUGHNESS BORN FROM BEING OUTSIDERS, MAYBE...

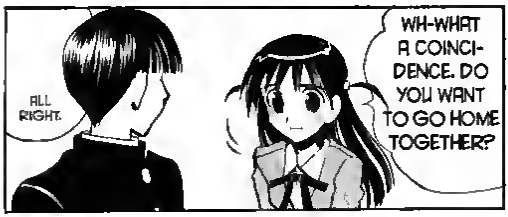
WOW!! I REALLY THINK WE CAN DEPEND ON HANAI-KUN THIS TIME!!
YES, GUYS WHO WEAR GLASSES ARE A STEP ABOVE!!


HA HA HA HA HA! I'VE ALWAYS BEEN ONE! ALWAYS!
MAN, HANAI, YOU'VE REALLY TURNED INTO A LEADER.

HE'S GOT TENMA-CHAN WRAPPED AROUND HIS FINGER!!
HANAI... DAMN HIM...

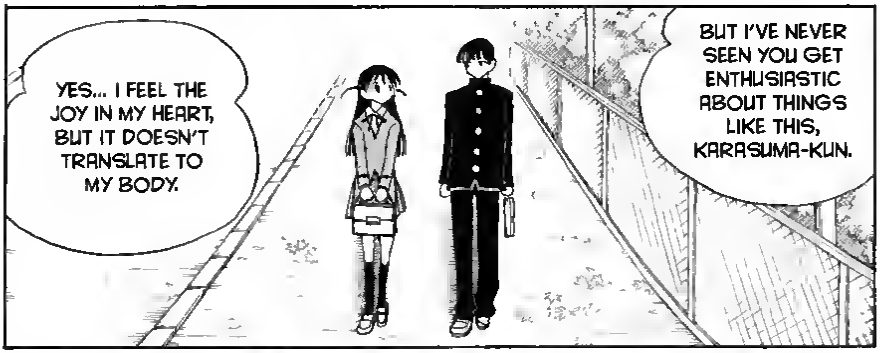

MIKO-CHAAN!!
KRIKK
SNEAK

WHA—?!
WHAT'S WITH YOU GUYS?! IF THAT'S HOW IT IS, JUST COME OUT AND SAY IT!!
WHAT ARE YOU SAY-ING?!
NO...
THAT'S RIGHT! I HEARD THAT! IT RESOUNDED THROUGHOUT THE SCHOOL! "MIKO-CHAAAN!!"
YOU GOT IT ALL WRONG!!!
SUÔ-SAN! DON'T THROW YOUR YOUTH AWAY ON A GUY LIKE THAT!
HANAI, YOU JERK! YOU'RE GONNA DIE FOR THIS!!


ALL RIGHT.
WH-WHAT A COINCI-DENCE. DO YOU WANT TO GO HOME TOGETHER?

K-KARASUMA-KUN!
HM...?

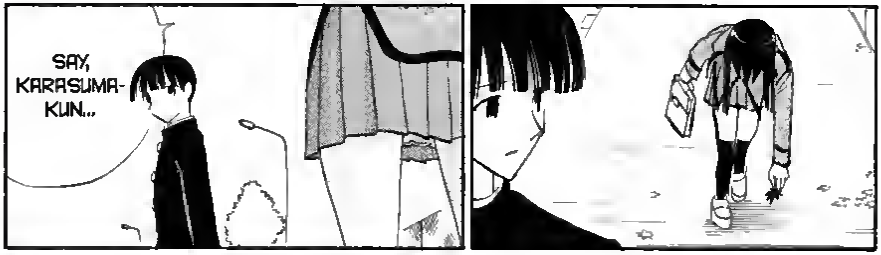
YEAH! IT'S GOING TO BE SO MUCH FUN!!
I'M ALL EXCITED!
SO THE CULTURAL FAIR IS FINALLY ABOUT TO START, HM?


YES... I FEEL THE JOY IN MY HEART, BUT IT DOESN'T TRANSLATE TO MY BODY.
BUT I'VE NEVER SEEN YOU GET ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT THINGS LIKE THIS, KARASUMA-KUN.

WHATEVER YOU DO, I'LL KNOW THAT YOU'RE HAVING FUN!!
IT'LL BE OKAY!

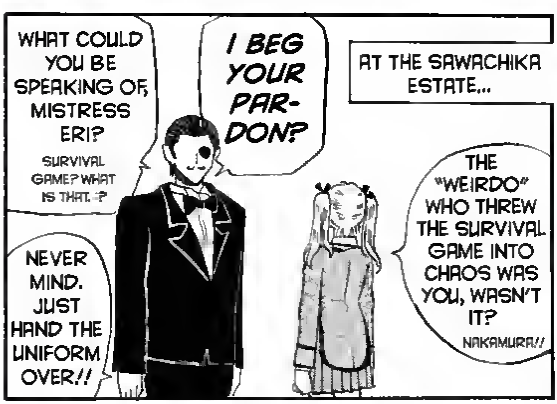
YES... PERHAPS YOU'RE RIGHT.
YOU SHOULD JUST SHOUT OUT, "THIS IS FUN!"
THAT'LL DO THE TRICK!

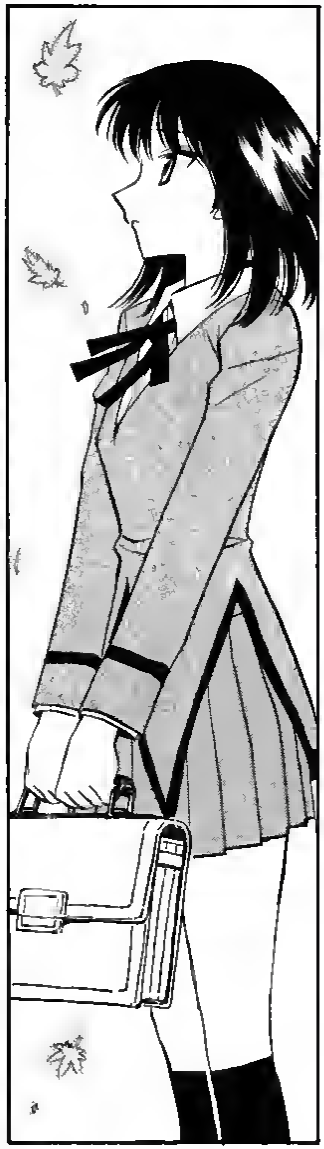
I CAN TALK TO YOU, TSUKAMOTO-SAN, ABOUT THINGS LIKE THIS, BUT I CAN'T SEEM TO COMMIT MYSELF OTHER-WISE.
TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH, I'M AT A BIT OF A LOSS.


SAY, KARASUMA-KUN...

SHUUSH
SO LET'S GET OUT AND MAKE SOME NOISE! ALONG WITH THE WHOLE CLASS!!

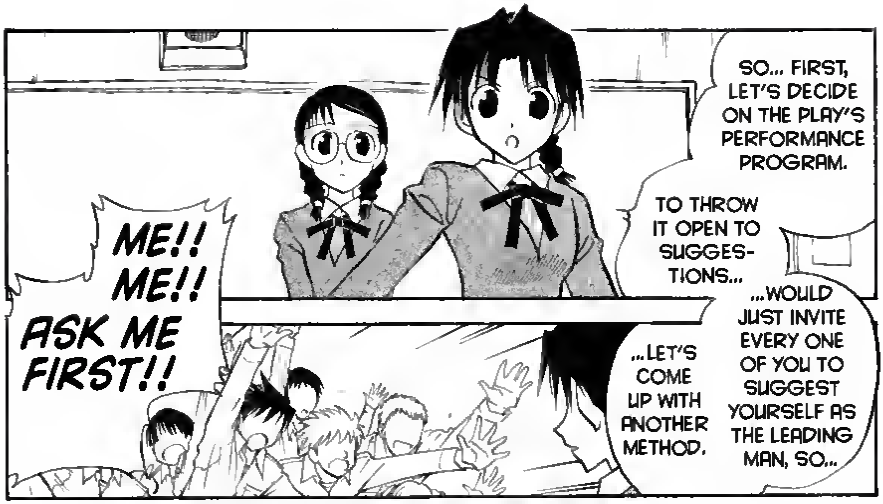
YOU LIKE THOSE, RIGHT?
IT'S A FESTIVAL.


WHAT COULD YOU BE SPEAKING OF, MISTRESS ERI?
SURVIVAL GAME? WHAT IS THAT...?
I BEG YOUR PAR-DON?
AT THE SAWACHIKA ESTATE...
THE "WEIRDO" WHO THREW THE SURVIVAL GAME INTO CHAOS WAS YOU, WASN'T IT?
NAKAMURA!!
NEVER MIND. JUST HAND THE UNIFORM OVER!!

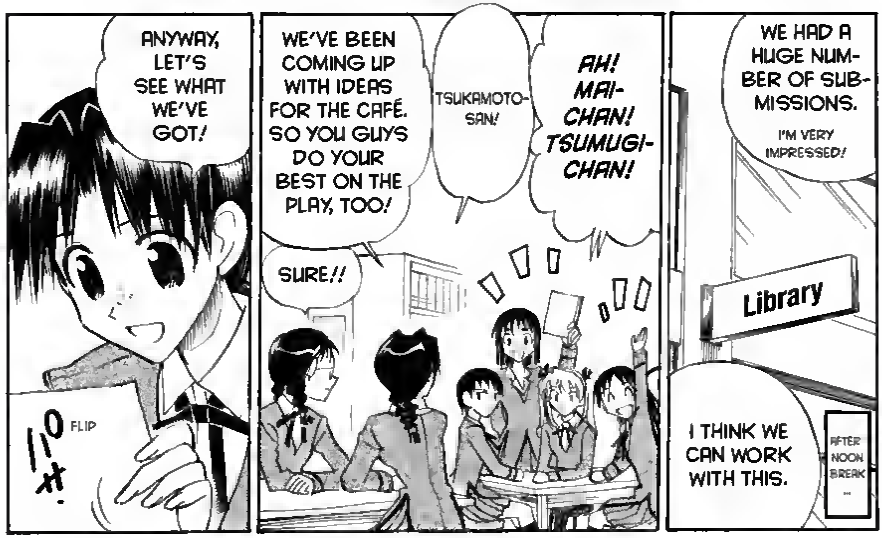


Her Lack of Cheer Isn't Due to the Season...

111 · · · · · · · · · Fin


SO... FIRST, LET'S DECIDE ON THE PLAY'S PERFORMANCE PROGRAM.
TO THROW IT OPEN TO SUGGES-TIONS...
...WOULD JUST INVITE EVERY ONE OF YOU TO SUGGEST YOURSELF AS THE LEADING MAN, SO...
...LET'S COME UP WITH ANOTHER METHOD.
ME!! ME!! ASK ME FIRST!!

HERE'S WHAT WE'LL DO. ANYONE IN THE CLASS CAN COME UP WITH A STORY AND HAND IT IN. BUT YOU AREN'T ALLOWED TO CAST YOURSELF.
WHA—?!
I'LL GATHER IDEAS AND INCLUDE THEM IN A SCRIPT
HEY... !! BUT I GUESS IT WILL MAKE FOR THE BEST CASTING.

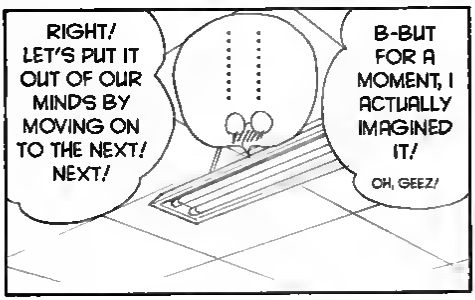

WE HAD A HUGE NUM-BER OF SUB-MISSIONS.
I'M VERY IMPRESSED!
Library
I THINK WE CAN WORK WITH THIS.
AFTER-NOON BREAK
AH! MAI-CHAN! TSUMUGI-CHAN!
TSUKAMOTO-SAN!
WE'VE BEEN COMING UP WITH IDEAS FOR THE CAFÉ. SO YOU GUYS DO YOUR BEST ON THE PLAY, TOO!
SURE!!
ANYWAY, LET'S SEE WHAT WE'VE GOT!
FLIP

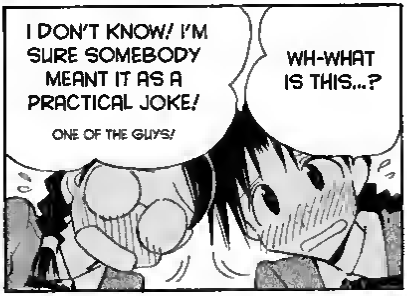
#112 | FINDING FORRESTER

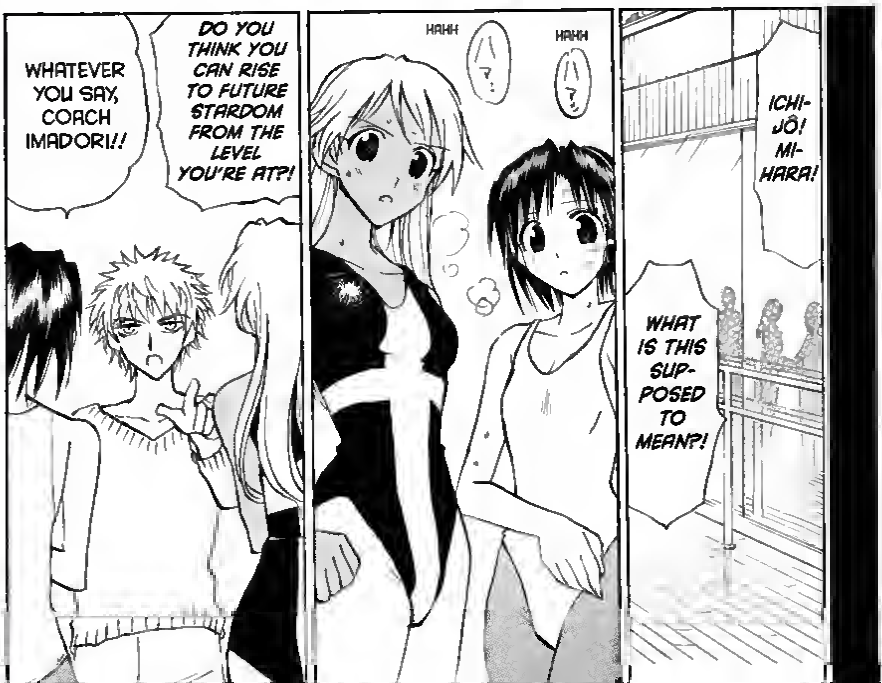
DOOM
Y-YA-KUMO!! MY FEELINGS ARE EXACTLY THE...
WHAT?!
HANAI-SEMPAI... ACTUALLY, I HAVE THESE FEELINGS FOR YOU...
SLIPP
BWAAH
THAT WAS JUST A DISGUISE! ACTUALLY, IT IS !!!
HARIMA KENJI!!
I DON'T CARE! I LOVE YOU ANYWAY...
I...
WHA—?!
KENJI...!!
H-HANAI...

BAMM
AAAAH!!!

N-N-N-NOTHING!! NOTHING AT ALL!!
WHAT'S WRONG...?


RIGHT! LET'S PUT IT OUT OF OUR MINDS BY MOVING ON TO THE NEXT! NEXT!
B-BUT FOR A MOMENT, I ACTUALLY IMAGINED IT!
OH, GEEZ!


I DON'T KNOW! I'M SURE SOMEBODY MEANT IT AS A PRACTICAL JOKE!
ONE OF THE GUYS!
WH-WHAT IS THIS...?

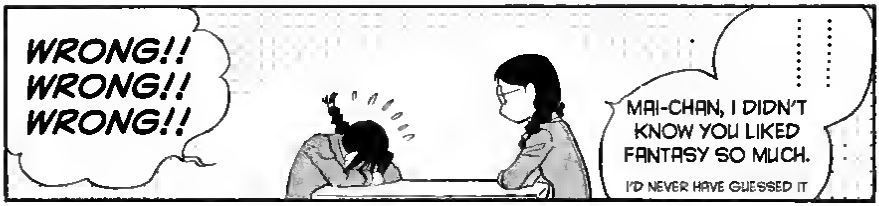

WHATEVER YOU SAY, COACH IMADORI!!
DO YOU THINK YOU CAN RISE TO FUTURE STARDOM FROM THE LEVEL YOU'RE AT?!
HAHH
HAHH
ICHI-JŌ! MI-HARA!
WHAT IS THIS SUP-POSED TO MEAN?!

!! IT'S PRIMA MIKO-CHIN!!
WHOA!!
ゆあっ
SHE SPARKLES LIKE A JEWEL...!!
SUCH BRILLIANT BEAUTY...
.....!
キラーン
SHINING
AS LONG AS SUÔ-SAN IS AROUND ...
SUCH AN EXCELLENT VOICE...
YOU HAVE SUCH STYLE...
SUÔ-SAN...

...WE HAVE NO FUTURE...!!
PLIP
PLIP
AAAAAH!!
BRMM
HOW'RE YOU GUYS COMING?
SHOW ME!!
B-BECAUSE IT'S MORE FUN TO BE SURPRISED!
HO HO HO!
HUH? WHY WON'T YOU LET ME SEE IT?
...AND AT THE TIME, SHE WAS PRETTY BAD...
BUT I'VE HEARD MIHARA SINGING...
SHE KNOWS HOW GOOD ICHIJÔ IS AT SINGING. THEY'VE BEEN TO KARAOKE TOGETHER.
S-SAE-CHAN, MAYBE?
JUDGING FROM THE EVIL INTENTS...
WH-WHO WROTE THIS ONE?!
.....
YOU THINK THAT'S THE ANSWER...? M-MAYBE...
.....
WELL, IT SEEMS PRETTY LIKELY.
.....
LOOK... THIS "COACH IMADORI" THING...

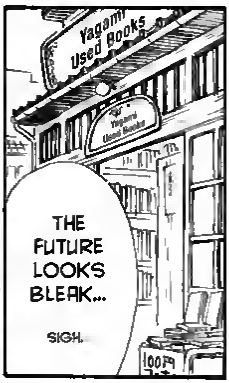
I DON'T THINK WE CAN HELP SAE-CHAN... LET'S GO ON TO THE NEXT...
HYUUUU
SHFF SHFF
E-EXCUSE ME... I'D LIKE ONE ORDER OF KAKESOBA...
UH... UM...
..... HM...
WELCOME TO THE SHOP!
I KNOW YOU. YOU'RE FROM THE SAWA-CHIKA GROUP...
THAT WAS A LONG TIME AGO...
BUT MY COMPANY COLLAPSED, AND I AM NOW AS YOU SEE ME. IMPOVER-ISHED.
I WAS ONLY ABLE TO ESCAPE BY THE SKIN OF MY TEETH!
BWAAH—
YOUR GANGSTER-STYLE BUSINESS PRACTICES BROUGHT TEARS TO THE EYES OF COUNTLESS VICTIMS!
AH! I KNOW YOU...
I-I'M SO SORRY...!!
SHAKK
HAVE YOU TASTED THE BITTER NECTAR OF A POOR PERSON'S LIFE?!
THERE ARE MEN IN THE WORLD WHO LIVE ONLY ON RICE AND DRIED BONITO!!

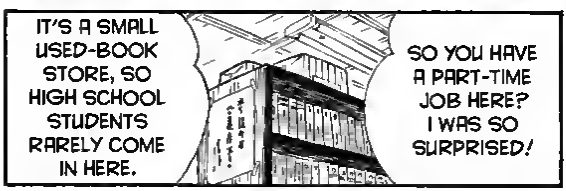
HMM...?
YEAH... HE PROBABLY THOUGHT THAT SINCE HE WAS IN DISGUISE AT THE BEGINNING, THAT DOESN'T COUNT AS HIM PLAYING A ROLE...
WHAT IS THIS... HARIMA-KUN?
MAYBE?
AAAAH!!
S-SAWACHIKA-SAN?!
REALLY? SO HARIMA-KUN WROTE THIS?
IT ISN'T BAD!!
EH? AH! SURE.
SHIVER, SHIVER
MIKOTO, I HAVE AN ERRAND. I HAVE TO GO!!
EEEE!
IT'S ALL RIGHT. IT'S FOR THE CULTURAL FAIR, RIGHT?
I CAN'T BE OFFENDED BY THAT.
HEH!
EH...? WH-WHAT IS THIS...?!
N-NEXT IS...
I'M A MAGICAL GIRL!!
GYAAAH
I AM ŌTSUKA MAI! USUALLY, I'M JUST A NORMAL FIRST-YEAR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT!!
JUST CALL ME MAI!
BUT ACTUALLY, I HAVE A SECRET THAT I CAN'T TELL A SOUL!

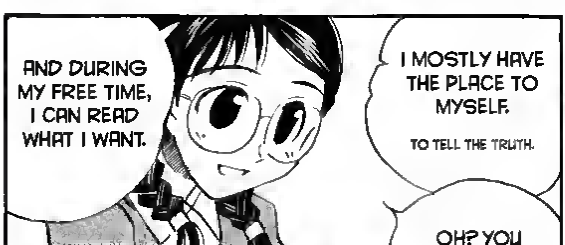

WRONG!!
WRONG!!
WRONG!!
MAI-CHAN, I DIDN'T KNOW YOU LIKED FANTASY SO MUCH.
I'D NEVER HAVE GUESSED IT

HUH?
WELCOME TO THE SHOP
ちらっ!
GLANCE

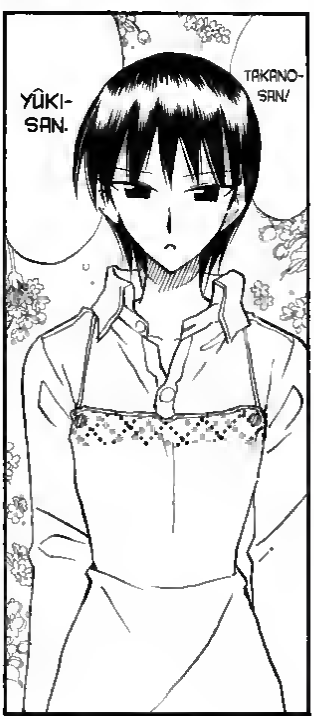
SO I FIGURE I'LL BUY THESE BOOKS ON THEATER.
BUT I HAVE NO IDEA HOW TO PUT THESE IDEAS TOGETHER...


Yagami Used Books
THE FUTURE LOOKS BLEAK...
SIGH.

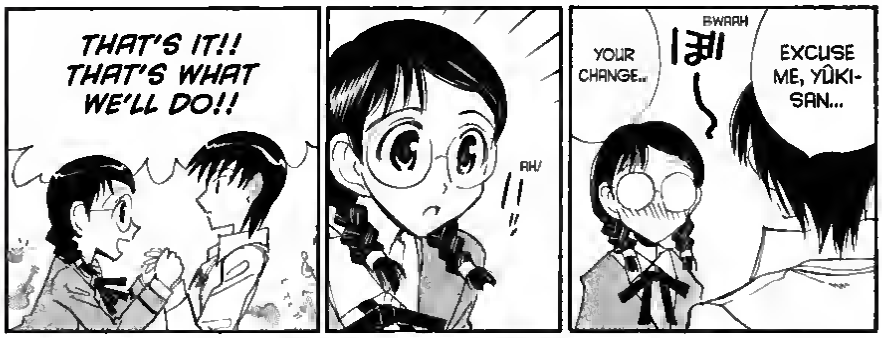

IT'S A SMALL USED-BOOK STORE, SO HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS RARELY COME IN HERE.
SO YOU HAVE A PART-TIME JOB HERE? I WAS SO SURPRISED!

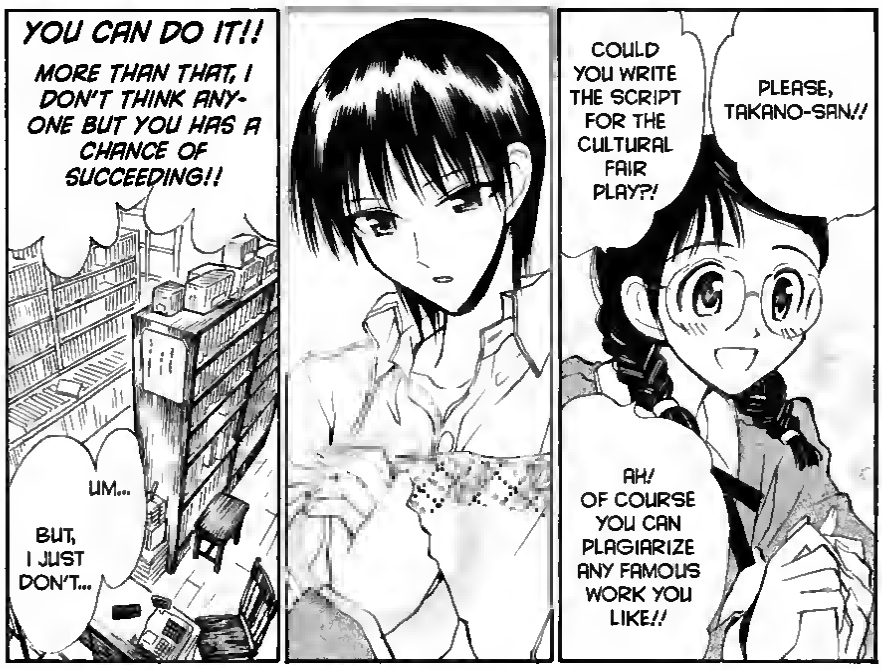

AND DURING MY FREE TIME, I CAN READ WHAT I WANT.
I MOSTLY HAVE THE PLACE TO MYSELF.
TO TELL THE TRUTH.
OH? YOU REALLY LIKE BOOKS, HUH?

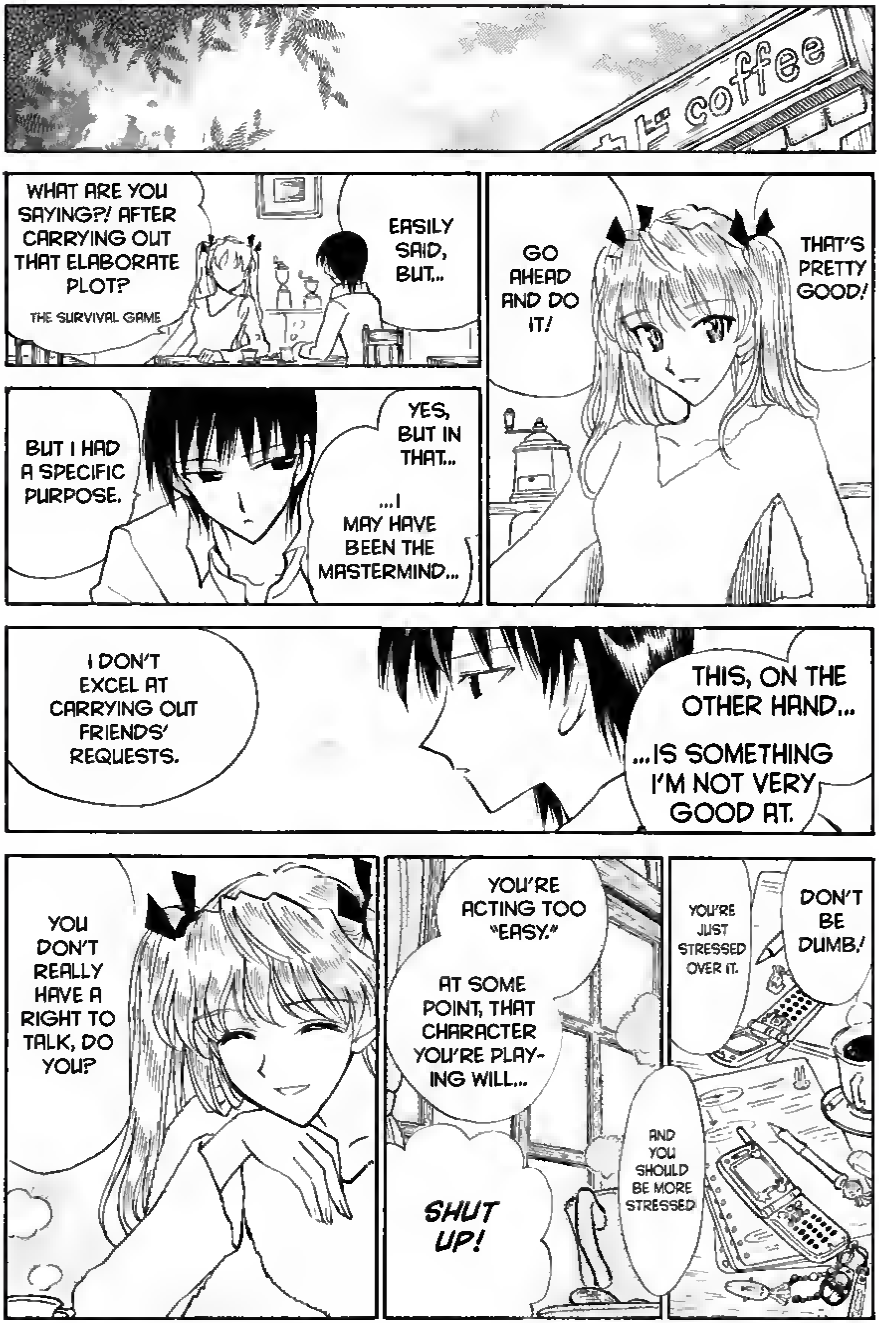
EH?
AH! YES. I LIKE THEM.


YÛKI-SAN.
TAKANO-SAN!

HER CALM DEMEANOR! SHE'S WHAT ONE WOULD CALL A WOMAN WITH BOTH INTELLIGENCE AND LOOKS!! SO COOL!!
WOW! I LOVE THE CONCEPT! THE BEAUTY OF THE USED-BOOK STORE!!

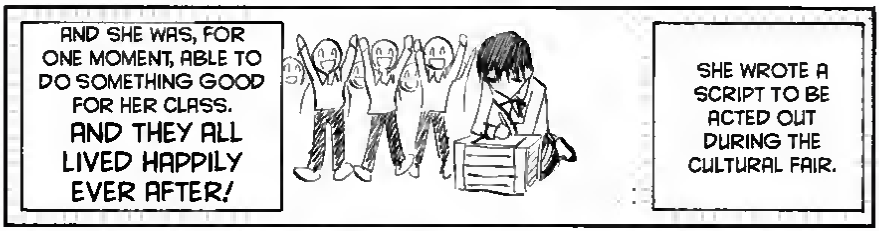

THAT'S IT!! THAT'S WHAT WE'LL DO!!
AH!
!!
!!
EXCUSE ME, YÛKI-SAN...
BWAAH
YOUR CHANGE..

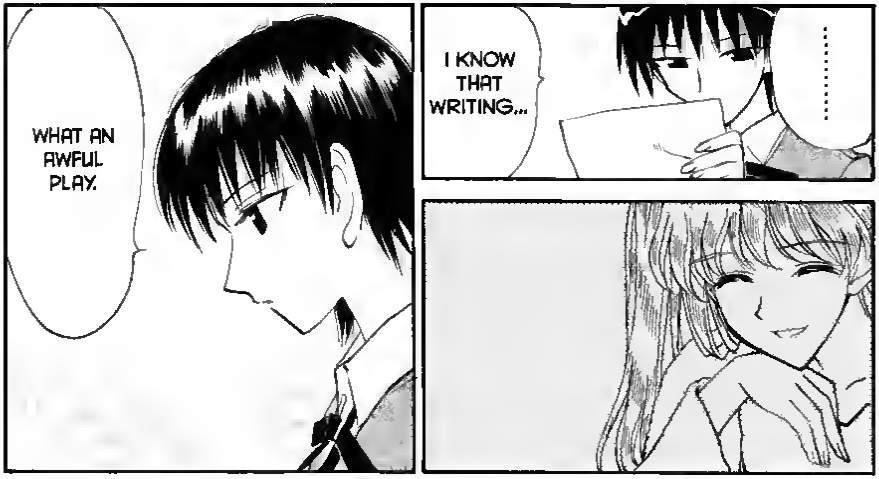

YOU CAN DO IT!!
MORE THAN THAT, I DON'T THINK ANY-ONE BUT YOU HAS A CHANCE OF SUCCEEDING!!
UM...
BUT, I JUST DON'T...
PLEASE, TAKANO-SAN!!
COULD YOU WRITE THE SCRIPT FOR THE CULTURAL FAIR PLAY?!
AH! OF COURSE YOU CAN PLAGIARIZE ANY FAMOUS WORK YOU LIKE!!

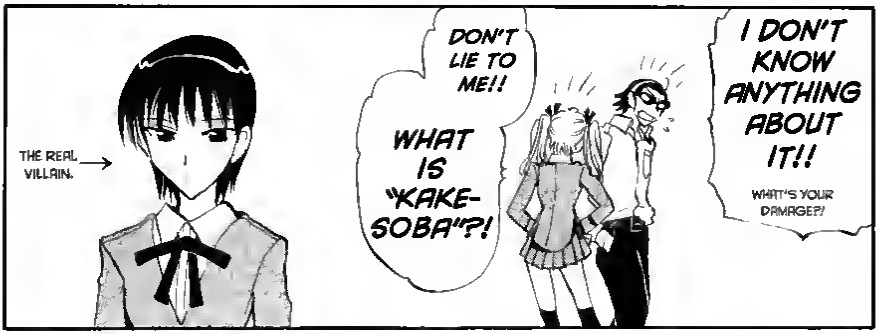

coffee
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?! AFTER CARRYING OUT THAT ELABORATE PLOT?
THE SURVIVAL GAME
EASILY SAID, BUT...
GO AHEAD AND DO IT!
THAT'S PRETTY GOOD!
BUT I HAD A SPECIFIC PURPOSE.
YES, BUT IN THAT...
...I MAY HAVE BEEN THE MASTERMIND...
I DON'T EXCEL AT CARRYING OUT FRIENDS' REQUESTS.
THIS, ON THE OTHER HAND...
...IS SOMETHING I'M NOT VERY GOOD AT.
YOU DON'T REALLY HAVE A RIGHT TO TALK, DO YOU?
YOU'RE ACTING TOO "EASY."
AT SOME POINT, THAT CHARACTER YOU'RE PLAYING WILL...
SHUT UP!
YOU'RE JUST STRESSED OVER IT.
DON'T BE DUMB!
AND YOU SHOULD BE MORE STRESSED

THE NEXT DAY...
Library
LIKE YOU'RE PUTTING ON AN ACT.
OH, WOW! AKIRA, I'VE NEVER SEEN SUCH A HALF-HEARTED SMILE!
IT IS NOT HALF-HEARTED.
PERHAPS NOT...
HEH...
DON'T WORRY ABOUT THESE!!
GAMPH
?
NOW, CAN I LOOK AT ALL OF THE SUBMITTED SCRIPTS UP TO THIS POINT?
WHAT'S THIS...
.....
BUT I WENT AND HAD THEM ALL COPIED ANYWAY...
.....
I GET IT NOW.
DUBIOUS
...THERE LIVED A GIRL WHO WAS VERY COLD TO OTHER PEOPLE.
IN A CERTAIN TIME AND PLACE...

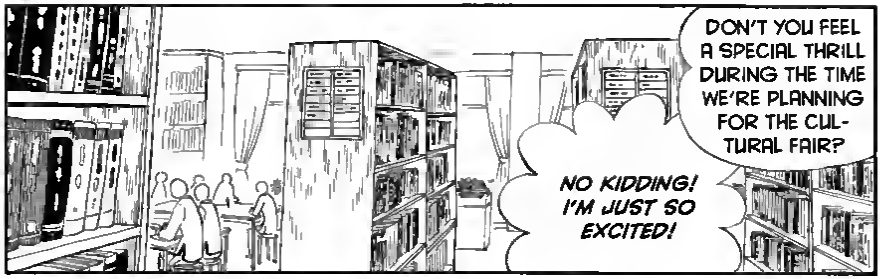
BUT WITHIN THIS GIRL HID ONE GOOD ASPECT. SHE LOVED BOOKS AND WRITING.
SHE HAD GOOD GRADES, BUT HER TWISTED PERSONALITY CAUSED HER TO PICK ON OTHERS.

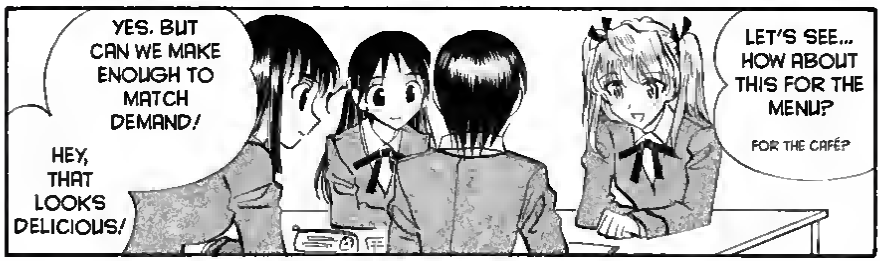

AND SHE WAS, FOR ONE MOMENT, ABLE TO DO SOMETHING GOOD FOR HER CLASS. AND THEY ALL LIVED HAPPILY EVER AFTER!
SHE WROTE A SCRIPT TO BE ACTED OUT DURING THE CULTURAL FAIR.


WHAT AN AWFUL PLAY.
I KNOW THAT WRITING...
.....

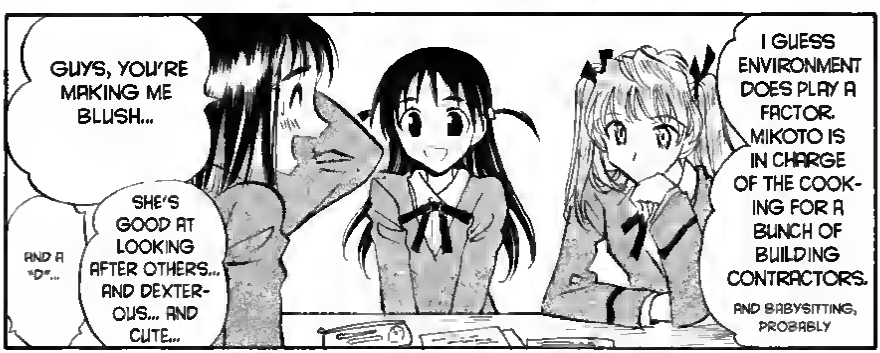

THE REAL VILLAIN.
DON'T LIE TO ME!!
WHAT IS "KAKE-SOBA"?!
I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT IT!!
WHAT'S YOUR DAMAGE?!

112.....Fin

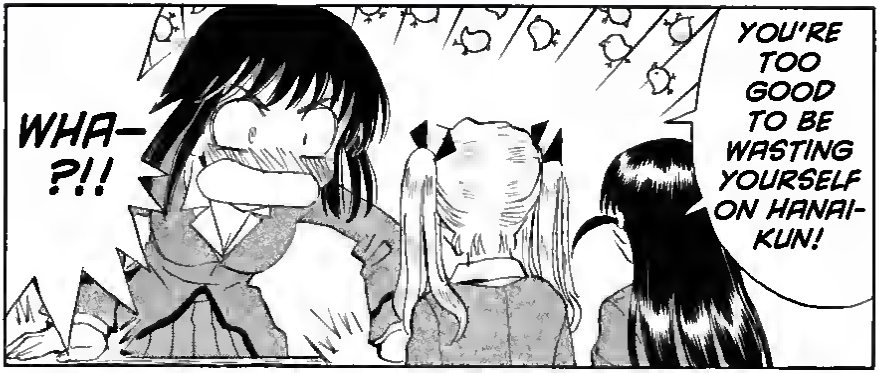




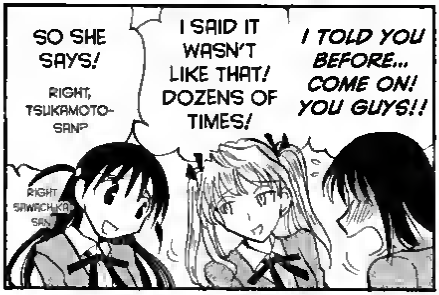
I'M JEALOUS! MAYBE I SHOULD LEARN TO COOK TOO.
STILL, OUR CAFÉ HAS SAGANO-SAN AND MIKOTO, SO WE CAN RELAX.
TENMA, I CAN'T COUNT HOW MANY TIMES YOU'VE SAID THAT.

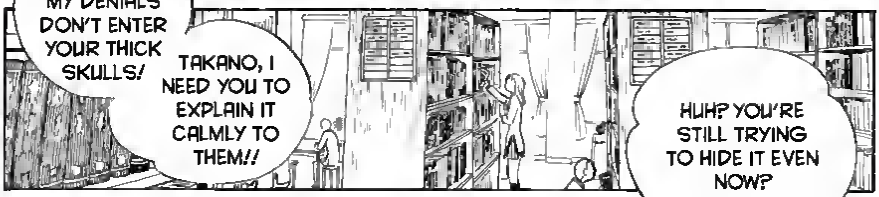

GUYS, YOU'RE MAKING ME BLUSH...
SHE'S GOOD AT LOOKING AFTER OTHERS... AND DEXTEROUS... AND CUTE...
AND A "D"...
I GUESS ENVIRONMENT DOES PLAY A FACTOR. MIKOTO IS IN CHARGE OF THE COOKING FOR A BUNCH OF BUILDING CONTRACTORS.
AND BABYSITTING, PROBABLY

#113 | THE ODD COUPLE

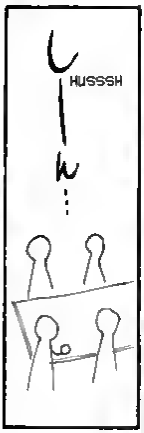

WHA-?!!
YOU'RE TOO GOOD TO BE WASTING YOURSELF ON HANAI-KUN!

STOP IT!!!
MIKO-CHAAAN!!


SO SHE SAYS!
RIGHT, TSUKAMOTO-SAN?
I SAID IT WASN'T LIKE THAT! DOZENS OF TIMES!
I TOLD YOU BEFORE... COME ON! YOU GUYS!!
RIGHT, SAWACHIKA-SAN

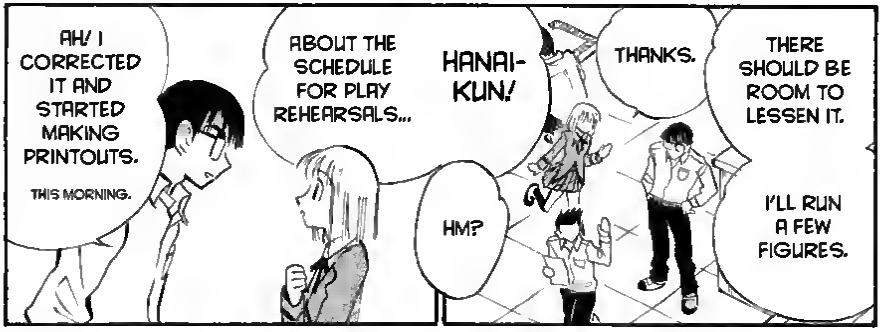

ALL RIGHT! IT LOOKS LIKE MY DENIALS DON'T ENTER YOUR THICK SKULLS!
TAKANO, I NEED YOU TO EXPLAIN IT CALMLY TO THEM!!
HUH? YOU'RE STILL TRYING TO HIDE IT EVEN NOW?

THEY TOR-TURE ME FOR FUN!
I'M BEING TOR-TURED FOR FUN!
SEE?!
THEY ALREADY HAVE THE FACTS...

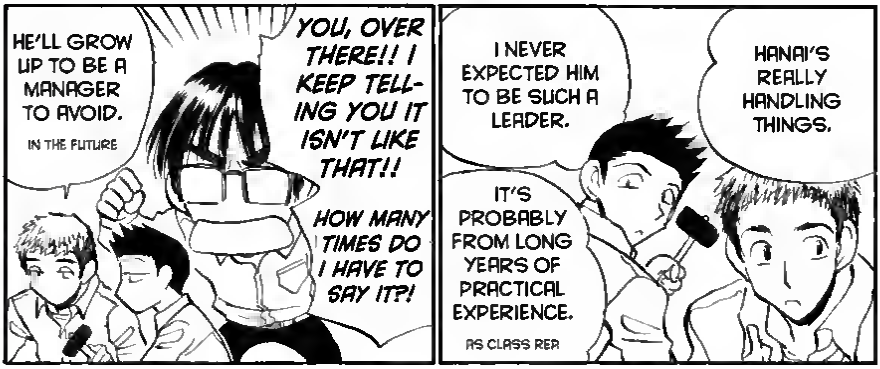

HUSSSH

I WISH I HAD A CHILDHOOD FRIEND LIKE THAT!
HUFF HUFF
WHUMP

HM... HM...
BUT I THINK IT MAY BE A LITTLE MORE THAN WE HAVE...
I THINK WE'LL NEED ABOUT THIS MUCH.
ABOUT OUR WORKING BUDGET FOR THE CAFÉ...
2-C
HANAI!!


AH! I CORRECTED IT AND STARTED MAKING PRINTOUTS.
THIS MORNING.
ABOUT THE SCHEDULE FOR PLAY REHEARSALS...
HANAI-KUN!
HM?
THANKS.
THERE SHOULD BE ROOM TO LESSEN IT.
I'LL RUN A FEW FIGURES.

OH, THAT?
IT'LL BE OKAY. I PUT IN THE APPLICATION FOR FUNDS, AND IT SHOULD COME THROUGH ANY TIME.
OH! SPEAKING OF THE PLAY, DO WE HAVE OUR MONEY FOR COSTUMING YET?


HE'LL GROW UP TO BE A MANAGER TO AVOID.
IN THE FUTURE
YOU, OVER THERE!! I KEEP TELLING YOU IT ISN'T LIKE THAT!!
HOW MANY TIMES DO I HAVE TO SAY IT?!
I NEVER EXPECTED HIM TO BE SUCH A LEADER.
IT'S PROBABLY FROM LONG YEARS OF PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE.
AS CLASS REP
HANAI'S REALLY HANDLING THINGS.

ALL RIGHT! IT'S DONE!
I'M PRETTY GOOD AT THIS.
HAHH...
ZWEEKO
ZWEEKO
RIGHT. JUST LEAVE IT THERE.
THANKS!
HARIMA! HERE'S THE NEXT ONE FOR YOU!
WHY AM I GETTING ALONG WITH MY CLASS-MATES LIKE SOME NORMAL GUY?!
I'M A JUVENILE DELINQUENT!!
...NO!
I CAN'T DO THIS!!
I SHOULDN'T BE STANDING HERE MAK-ING MY SAW GO "ZWEEKO, ZWEEKO"!
HMM... BUT I ALSO GET THE FEELING THAT IT ISN'T ALL SUCH A BAD THING.
...I GET THE FEEL-ING THAT I'VE BEEN WATERED DOWN DAY BY DAY...
DAMMIT! EVER SINCE I DECIDED TO ENTER THE SAME CLASS AS TENMA-CHAN...
... WHAT KIND OF PERSON WAS HE?
THE "ME" WHO LIVED BACK THEN...

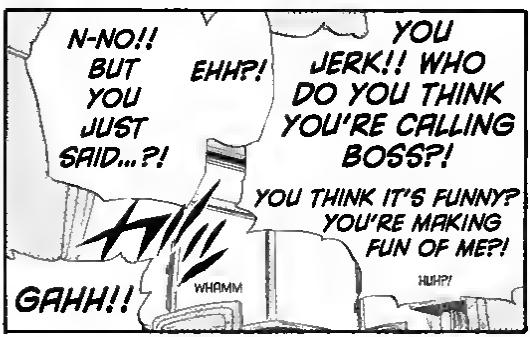
I SHOULD REMIND MYSELF OF WHO I WAS.
THAT'S RIGHT. WHO CARES IF I TAKE OFF.
.....
.....
AH...?
YEAH?
HARIMA-SAN!!
YEAH! LET'S GO! LET'S GO!
IT ISN'T LIKE SCHOOL IS RIGHT FOR HIM OR ME.
RIGHT.
LET'S TAKE OFF.
I JUST LOVE HOW WE CAN DEPEND ON GUYS LIKE YOU!!
AH!! HARIMA-KUN, WHAT A GREAT WORKER!!
LET'S STOP ALL THIS MAKE-BELIEVE WORK AND GO PLAY MAHJONG!
ZWAAA
YOU'RE SO COOL!!
WOW, YOU'VE GOT A GOOD ARM!
FYUUU
EH? UM... WHO'S "HACHI"?
COME ON, HACHI!! QUIT TRYING TO SKIP OUT ON WORK!!
BRING ME MORE BOARDS!!

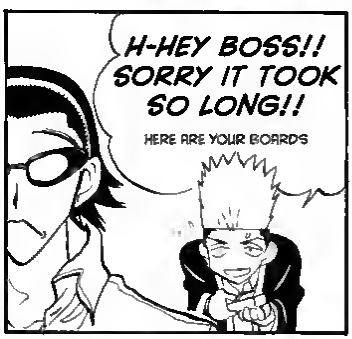
IT IS CLEAN LIVING LIKE THIS THAT WILL ALLOW ME TO STAY BY TENMA-CHAN'S SIDE FOREVER!
YES, THIS IS BEST FOR ME.
GLANCE
ちら

YEAH, IT'S A REAL HELP TO HAVE GUYS AROUND.
IN A LOT OF WAYS.

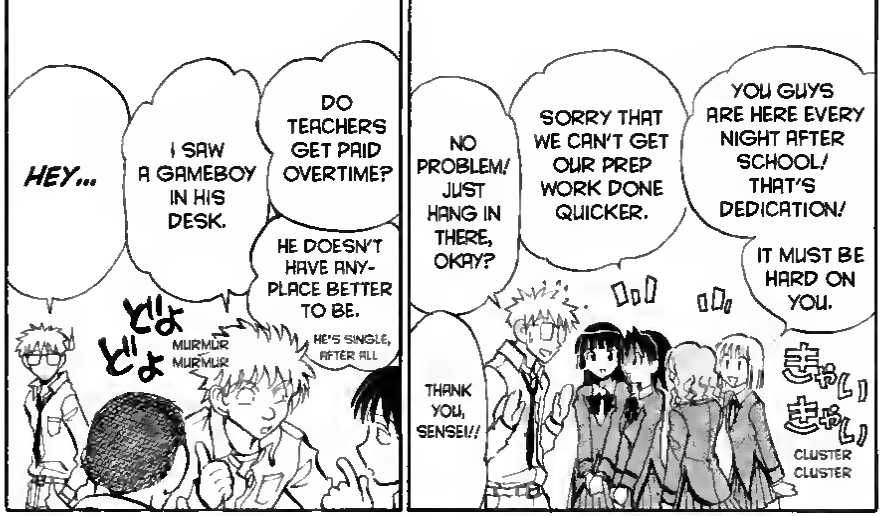
YES.
THAT'S RIGHT.
WE'LL BE FINE BRINGING ONLY KARASUMA-KUN AND FUYUKI-KUN ALONG, RIGHT?
SO, WE'LL JUST GO OUT TO BUY SUPPLIES!!
CHATTER CHATTER
ひそ ひそ

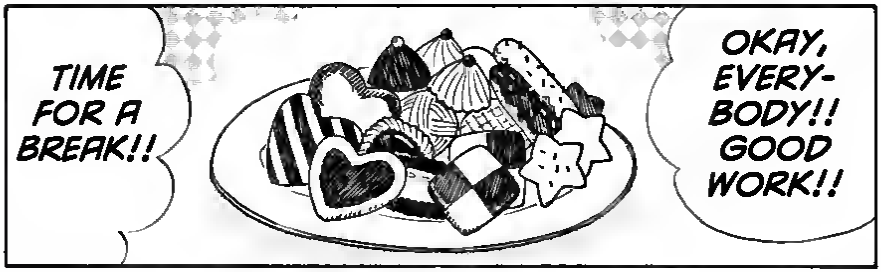
ZWEEKO
すいこ
ZWEEKO
すいこ

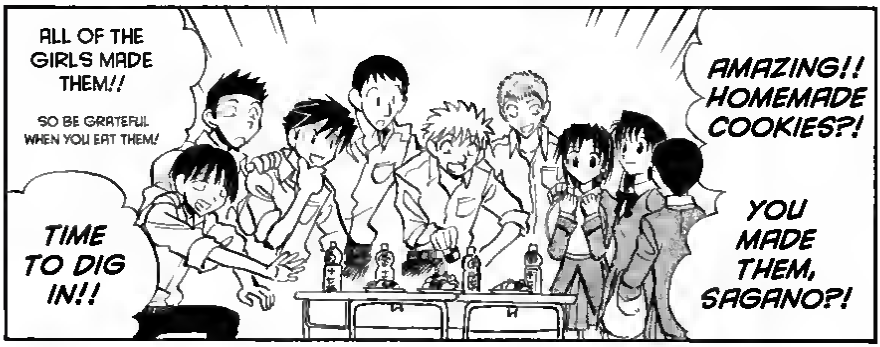

N-NO!! BUT YOU JUST SAID...?!
EHH?!
YOU JERK!! WHO DO YOU THINK YOU'RE CALLING BOSS?!
YOU THINK IT'S FUNNY? YOU'RE MAKING FUN OF ME?!
HUH?!
GAHH!!
WHAMM


H-HEY BOSS!! SORRY IT TOOK SO LONG!!
HERE ARE YOUR BOARDS

AH! TANI-SENSEI!
HEY, FELLAS, IT'S ALMOST DARK!!
YOU GUYS REALLY ARE GOING AT IT, HUH?


HEY...
I SAW A GAMEBOY IN HIS DESK.
DO TEACHERS GET PAID OVERTIME?
HE DOESN'T HAVE ANY-PLACE BETTER TO BE.
HE'S SINGLE, AFTER ALL
どよ どよ
MURMUR MURMUR
NO PROBLEM! JUST HANG IN THERE, OKAY?
SORRY THAT WE CAN'T GET OUR PREP WORK DONE QUICKER.
YOU GUYS ARE HERE EVERY NIGHT AFTER SCHOOL! THAT'S DEDICATION!
IT MUST BE HARD ON YOU.
THANK YOU, SENSEI!!
きゃし きゃし
CLUSTER CLUSTER

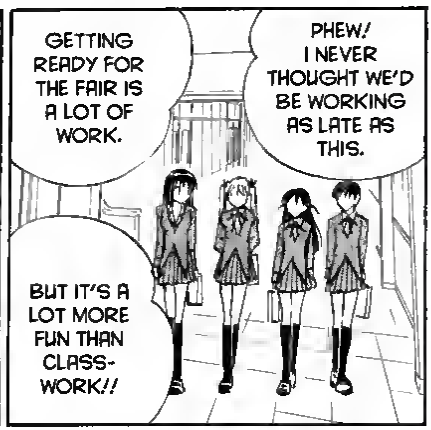

TIME FOR A BREAK!!
OKAY, EVERY-BODY!! GOOD WORK!!


ALL OF THE GIRLS MADE THEM!!
SO BE GRATEFUL WHEN YOU EAT THEM!
AMAZING!! HOMEMADE COOKIES?!
TIME TO DIG IN!!
YOU MADE THEM, SAGANO?!

THAT NIGHT...
ずしー ZWEEKO
ずしー ZWEEKO
STAY'S APART FROM THE CROWD AT TIMES LIKE THIS.
HEY! THESE GIVE ME THE STRENGTH TO GO ON FOREVER!!
HAVE AS MANY AS YOU LIKE!

2-C
YEAH!
SEE YOU TOMOR-ROW!!
SEE YOU!!

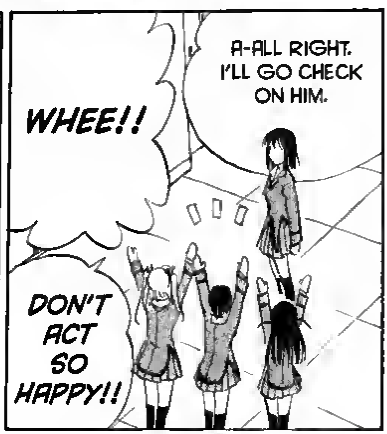
THAT'S TRUE. HE'S THE TYPE TO OVERWORK WHEN HE'S ALONE.
HE'LL EXHAUST HIMSELF, HUH?
EH...?
SAY, IT LOOKS LIKE HANAI-KUN IS STILL HARD AT WORK ALL ALONE.
AREN'T YOU WORRIED, MIKO-CHAN?


GETTING READY FOR THE FAIR IS A LOT OF WORK.
PHEW! I NEVER THOUGHT WE'D BE WORKING AS LATE AS THIS.
BUT IT'S A LOT MORE FUN THAN CLASS-WORK!!

.....

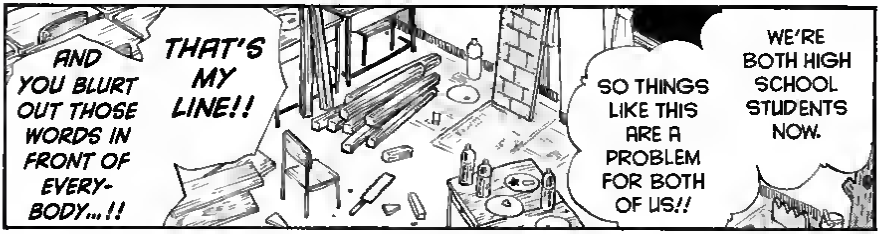
IT'S SUCH A SAD IMAGE, ISN'T IT?!

THEY'VE REALLY GOT IT ALL WRONG!
GEEZ! THIS IS WHAT THEY MEANT BY, "WE WANT TO TALK TO YOU AFTER"?!
TAK
TAK


A-ALL RIGHT. I'LL GO CHECK ON HIM.
WHEE!!
DON'T ACT SO HAPPY!!

HANAI!
HM?
OH, IT'S YOU, SUÔ.
KAMM
KAMM
THANKS.
YEAH.
GOOD TIMING. COULD YOU HOLD THAT END DOWN?
I SEE.
DON'T GIVE ME, "OH, IT'S YOU"!
HERE I WAS WORRIED ABOUT YOU!
KAMM
KAMM
YES, THAT.
OH... THAT...
MIKO-CHAAAANN!!!
WHY...DID YOU SAY THAT BACK THEN?
HM? WHAT IS IT?
HANAI... LISTEN...

HMM... IT SEEMS LIKE WE'RE A COUPLE OF WEIRDOS, HUH? BOTH YOU AND ME...
KIND OF SCARY
DRIP DRIP
I NEVER ONCE CALLED MYSELF "MIKO-CHAN"!!
YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE!! JUST YOU!!
I'M 100% THE VICTIM HERE!!


WE'RE BOTH HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS NOW.
SO THINGS LIKE THIS ARE A PROBLEM FOR BOTH OF US!!
THAT'S MY LINE!!
AND YOU BLURT OUT THOSE WORDS IN FRONT OF EVERY-BODY...!!

EVERY-BODY IS TAKING IT WRONG!!
GAMPH
YAKUMO-KUN IS THE ONLY ONE FOR ME!!
SAY, HANAI... NOBODY THINKS THAT YOU'LL GET ANYWHERE WITH HER.
JUST TO WARN YOU
SIGH
THAT ISN'T TRUE!! BACK ME UP A LITTLE!!

HM...
BUT AREN'T YAKUMO-CHAN AND HARIMA...
HUMPH! THAT'S ANOTHER MISUNDER-STANDING!!
I WILL NOT GIVE UP UNTIL I COM-PLETE MY VIC-TORY!!

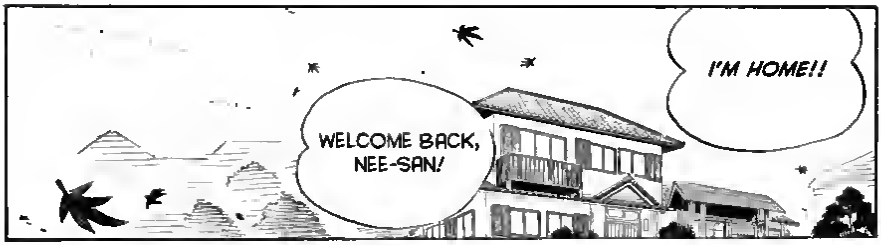
YES!! I WILL GIVE IT MY BEST SHOT!!
I DON'T NEED YOU TO SAY THAT!!
...BUT SURE. GIVE IT YOUR BEST SHOT.
SHE MAY BE A FIRST-YEAR STUDENT, BUT SHE'S PRETTY POPULAR. I CAN'T SAY THAT I UNDERSTAND YOUR OBSESSION WITH TSUKAMOTO'S LITTLE SISTER...
YEAHH!!
DON'T YOU HAVE ANY AMBITION IN THAT AREA?
BY THE WAY, WHAT ABOUT YOU?
REALLY?
.....
...NO. NOTHING LIKE THAT.
AH... ME?
WHAT WAS THAT?!
GEEZ, HANAI! ANYBODY WHO WORRIES OVER YOU IS IN FOR A BOUT OF DEPRESSION!
I DON'T NEED YOUR ADVICE!!
JUST TAKE YOUR TIME AND WAIT FOR IT.
THESE THINGS TEND TO HAPPEN SUDDENLY SOMEDAY.
MAYBE, BUT LOOK...

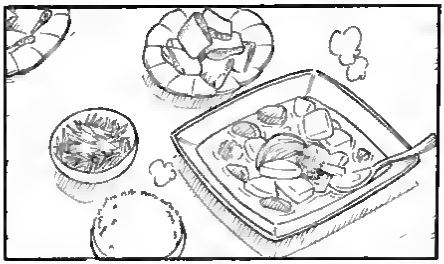
BUT LET'S MAKE IT A COMPETITION, TO SEE IF I GET A BOYFRIEND FIRST OR IF YOU GET A GIRLFRIEND FIRST.
SURE, BUT LET'S TAKE OUR TIME, OKAY?

YAKUMO-KUUUN!!!
TMP
TMP TMP TMP TMP TMP

IS THIS WHAT YOU CALL "TAKING YOUR TIME"?!

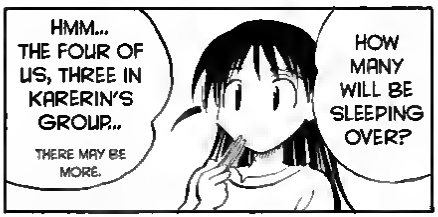
113·····Fin


I'M HOME!!
WELCOME BACK, NEE-SAN!

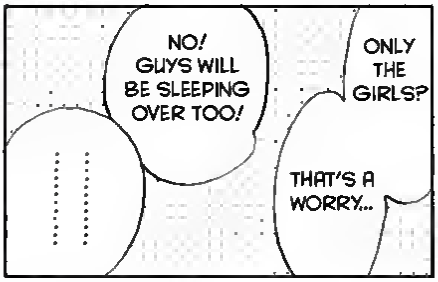


OUR CLASS IS WAY BEHIND IN PREPARA-TIONS FOR THE CULTURAL FAIR.
WE GOTTA GIVE IT ALL WE GOT!
YOU'RE BACK PRETTY LATE AGAIN.

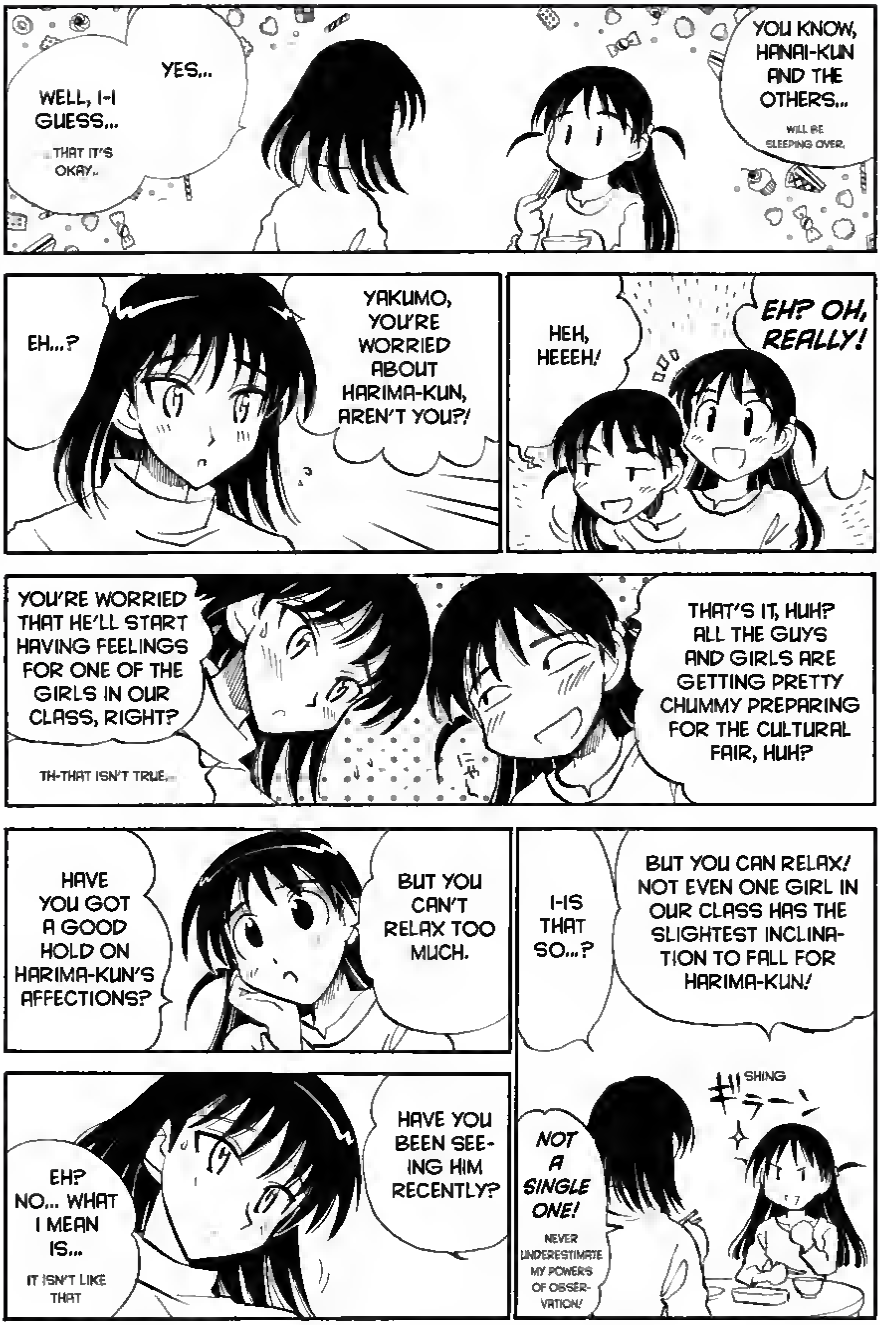
EH...? YOU'RE STAYING OVER AT SCHOOL TOMORROW?

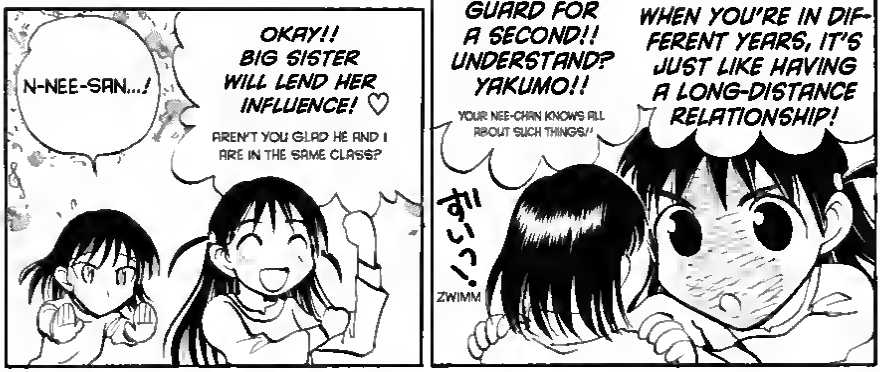

HMM... THE FOUR OF US, THREE IN KARERIN'S GROUP...
THERE MAY BE MORE.
HOW MANY WILL BE SLEEPING OVER?

THE TEACHER GAVE YOU PERMIS-SION?
WE'RE NOT GOING TO MAKE IT OTHER-WISE, SO WE'LL SLEEP OVER AND WORK.
YEP! HE SAID IT'D BE FINE!
TANI-SENSEI UNDERSTANDS HOW A STUDENT FEELS.


NO! GUYS WILL BE SLEEPING OVER TOO!
ONLY THE GIRLS?
THAT'S A WORRY...

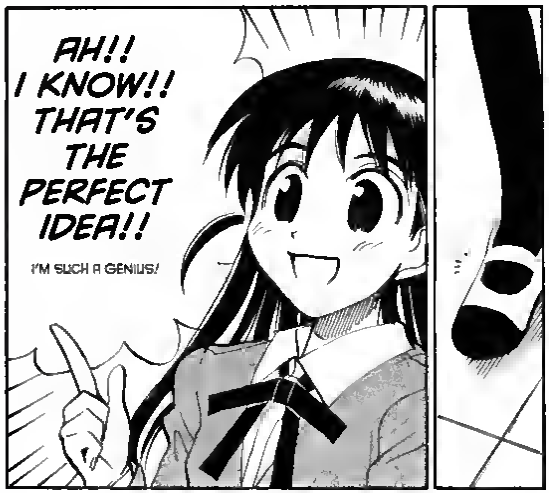
#114 VENOM


YOU KNOW, HANAI-KUN AND THE OTHERS...
WILL BE SLEEPING OVER.
YES...
WELL, I-I GUESS...
...THAT IT'S OKAY...
EH...?
YAKUMO, YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT HARIMA-KUN, AREN'T YOU?!
EH? OH, REALLY!
HEH, HEEEH!
YOU'RE WORRIED THAT HE'LL START HAVING FEELINGS FOR ONE OF THE GIRLS IN OUR CLASS, RIGHT?
TH-THAT ISN'T TRUE...
THAT'S IT, HUH? ALL THE GUYS AND GIRLS ARE GETTING PRETTY CHUMMY PREPARING FOR THE CULTURAL FAIR, HUH?
HAVE YOU GOT A GOOD HOLD ON HARIMA-KUN'S AFFECTIONS?
BUT YOU CAN'T RELAX TOO MUCH.
I-IS THAT SO...?
BUT YOU CAN RELAX! NOT EVEN ONE GIRL IN OUR CLASS HAS THE SLIGHTEST INCLINATION TO FALL FOR HARIMA-KUN!
SHING
NOT A SINGLE ONE!
NEVER UNDERESTIMATE MY POWERS OF OBSERVATION!
HAVE YOU BEEN SEEING HIM RECENTLY?
EH? NO... WHAT I MEAN IS...
IT ISN'T LIKE THAT


N-NEE-SAN...!
OKAY!! BIG SISTER WILL LEND HER INFLUENCE! ♡
AREN'T YOU GLAD HE AND I ARE IN THE SAME CLASS?
YOU CAN'T DROP YOUR GUARD FOR A SECOND!! UNDERSTAND? YAKUMO!!
YOUR NEE-CHAN KNOWS ALL ABOUT SUCH THINGS!
THAT'S NO GOOD!!
WHEN YOU'RE IN DIFFERENT YEARS, IT'S JUST LIKE HAVING A LONG-DISTANCE RELATIONSHIP!
ZWIMM

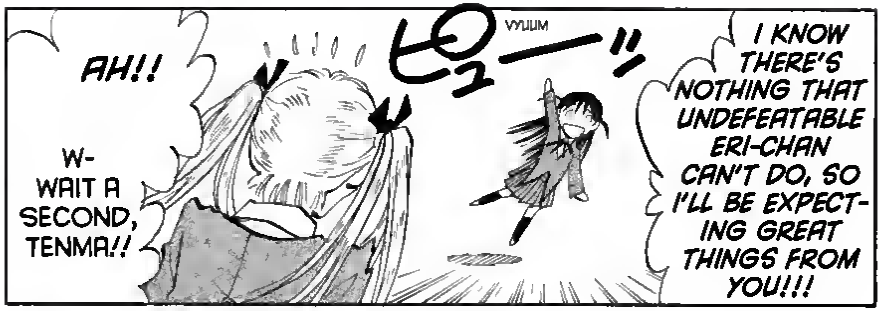
ARE YOU STILL SPOUTING THAT LINE?!
YOU REALLY SHOULD STOP THAT!
HARIMA-SAN AND I DON'T HAVE THAT KIND OF RELATIONSHIP...

THE NEXT DAY...

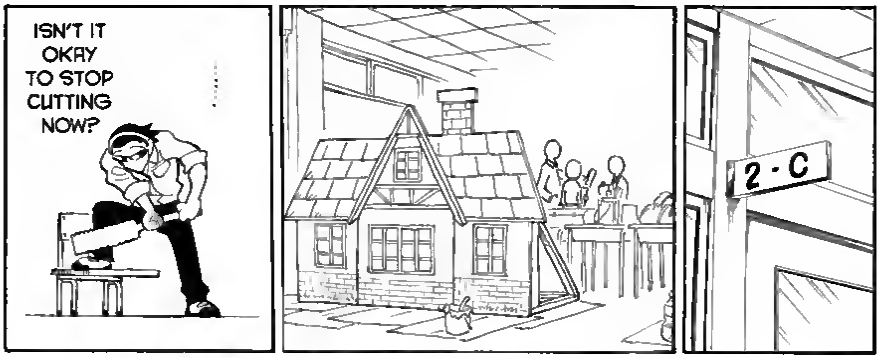

AH!! I KNOW!! THAT'S THE PERFECT IDEA!!
I'M SUCH A GENIUS!

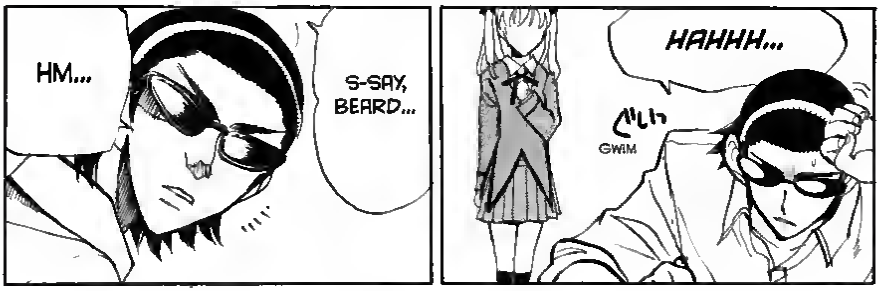
I GET THE FEELING I SHOULDN'T BE TOO DIRECT...
BUT EVEN SO, I WONDER HOW THINGS ARE REALLY GOING?
HMM...

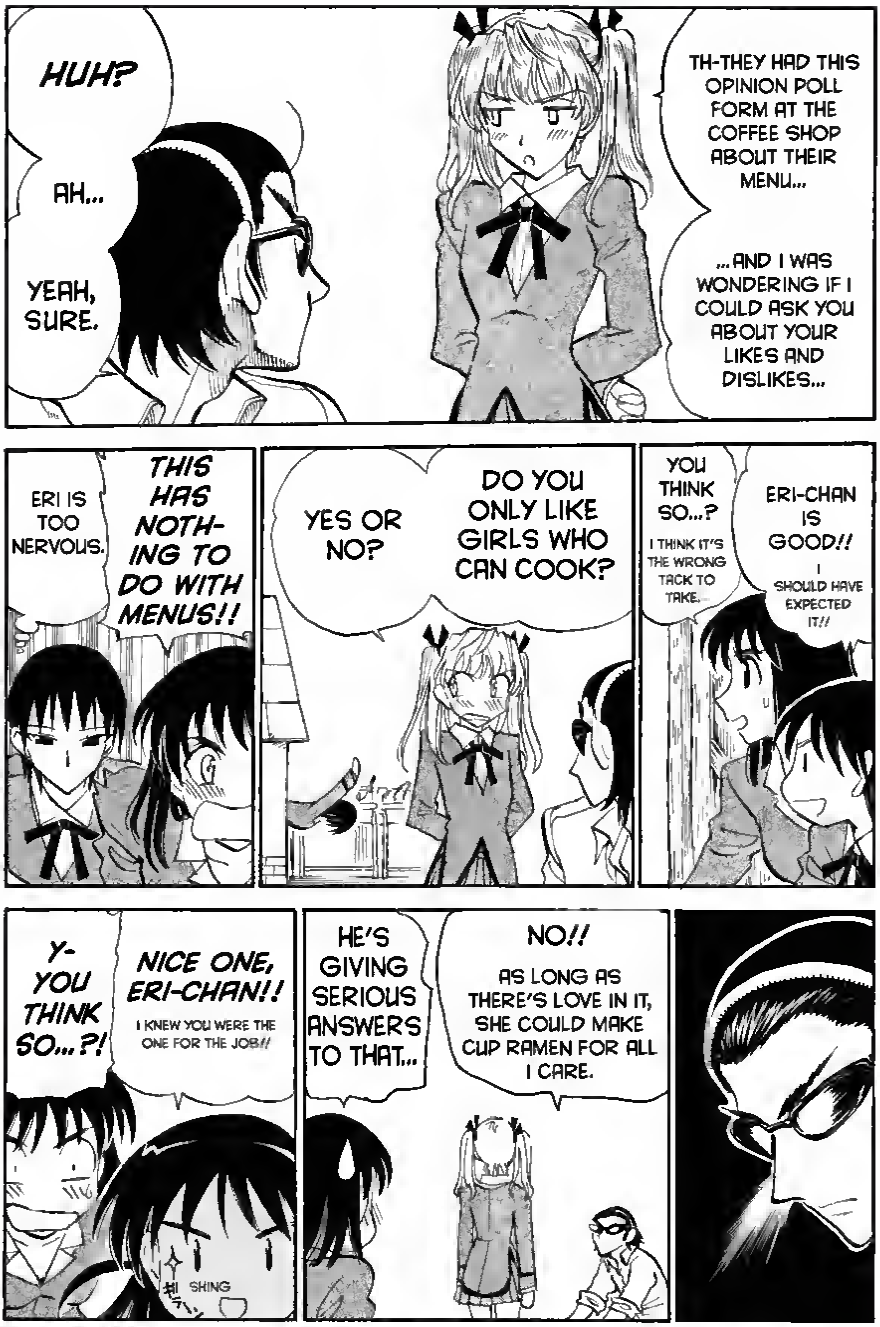
HUH?!
LIKE I WAS SAYING...
I WANT TO FIND OUT WHAT TURNS HARIMA-KUN ON! IF HE HAS A PARTICULAR TYPE!
I WANT YOU TO ASK HIM!!
IF I ASKED HIM, IT'D SOUND WAY SUSPICIOUS, BUT YOUR ASKING HIM WOULD BE SO NATURAL!
WHAT'S WITH THE SUDDEN MISSION, ANYWAY?
OH, YEAH. ACTUALLY, YAKUMO WANTS TO KNOW.
NEVER! NO WAY!!
EHH...? YOU MEAN HE DOESN'T INTEREST YOU AT ALL?
HARIMA-KUN?
NOT ONE LITTLE BIT!!
REMEMBER? SHE'S HEAD OVER HEELS FOR HARIMA-KUN THESE DAYS, RIGHT? BUT SHE'S SUCH A HOMEBODY!


AH!!
W-WAIT A SECOND, TENMA!!
VYUUM
I KNOW THERE'S NOTHING THAT UNDEFEATABLE ERI-CHAN CAN'T DO, SO I'LL BE EXPECTING GREAT THINGS FROM YOU!!!

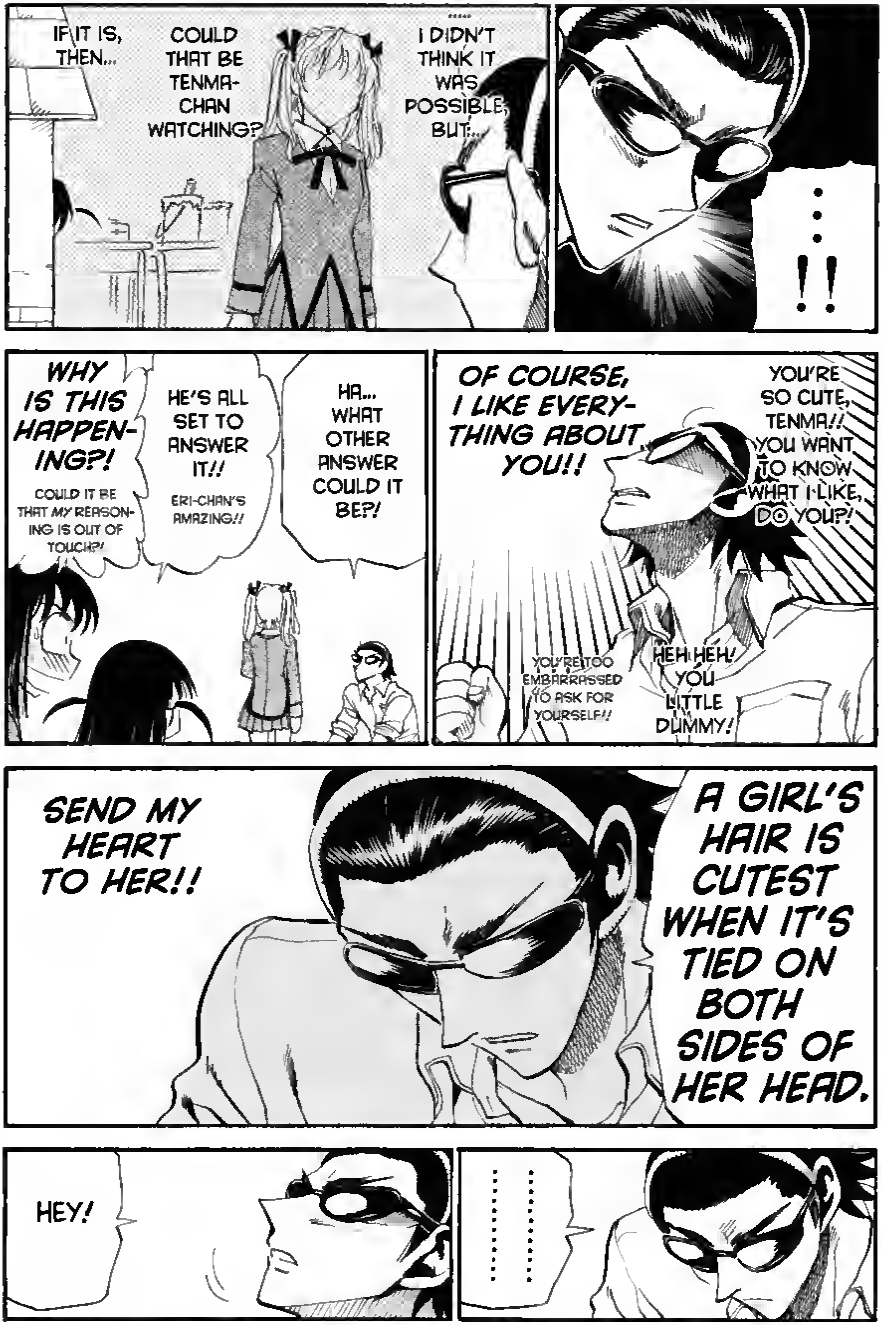
...AM I SUPPOSED TO DO NOW?!
WHAT...


ISN'T IT OKAY TO STOP CUTTING NOW?
2-C


HM...
S-SAY, BEARD...
HAHHH...
GWIM


HUH?
AH...
YEAH, SURE.
TH-THEY HAD THIS OPINION POLL FORM AT THE COFFEE SHOP ABOUT THEIR MENU...
...AND I WAS WONDERING IF I COULD ASK YOU ABOUT YOUR LIKES AND DISLIKES...
ERI IS TOO NERVOUS.
THIS HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH MENUS!!
YES OR NO?
DO YOU ONLY LIKE GIRLS WHO CAN COOK?
YOU THINK SO...?
I THINK IT'S THE WRONG TACK TO TAKE.
ERI-CHAN IS GOOD!!
I SHOULD HAVE EXPECTED IT!!
Y-YOU THINK SO...?!
NICE ONE, ERI-CHAN!!
I KNEW YOU WERE THE ONE FOR THE JOB!!
SHING
HE'S GIVING SERIOUS ANSWERS TO THAT...
NO!!
AS LONG AS THERE'S LOVE IN IT, SHE COULD MAKE CUP RAMEN FOR ALL I CARE.

O-OKAY... THE NEXT QUES-TION.
RIGHT.
SHOULD A GIRL BE GOOD AT SPORTS OR NOT?
WHAT DO YOU LIKE BETTER?
KLNCH
EH... .....
WHAT DIFFER-ENCE DOES IT MAKE?
BUT... I DO THINK IT'S CUTE WHEN A GIRL CAN'T SWIM.
I-IT COULDN'T BE...
IT'S JUST NOT POSSIBLE!
N-NEXT QUESTION! BEARD... I MEAN, HARIMA-KUN...
I WONDER WHAT'S GOTTEN ERI SO NERVOUS.
SHE'S ALREADY FORGOTTEN HER LIE ABOUT THE MENU!
COMPLETELY!
WHAT STYLE OF WOMAN'S HAIR ARE YOU ATTRACTED TO?


IF IT IS, THEN...
COULD THAT BE TENMA-CHAN WATCHING?
.....
I DIDN'T THINK IT WAS POSSIBLE, BUT...
!!
WHY IS THIS HAPPEN-ING?!
COULD IT BE THAT MY REASON-ING IS OUT OF TOUCH?!
HE'S ALL SET TO ANSWER IT!!
ERI-CHAN'S AMAZING!!
HA... WHAT OTHER ANSWER COULD IT BE?!
OF COURSE, I LIKE EVERY-THING ABOUT YOU!!
YOU'RE SO CUTE, TENMA!! YOU WANT TO KNOW WHAT I LIKE, DO YOU?!
YOU'RE TOO EMBARRASSED TO ASK FOR YOURSELF!!
HEH! HEH! YOU LITTLE DUMMY!
SEND MY HEART TO HER!!
A GIRL'S HAIR IS CUTEST WHEN IT'S TIED ON BOTH SIDES OF HER HEAD.
HEY!
.....

AREN'T YOU LISTENING TO ME?

B-BUT YOU CAN'T MEAN...

DOES HE...REALLY MEAN THAT...?
EH... EH?!
THEN...
HE TOLD ME THAT HE ISN'T DATING ANYONE...

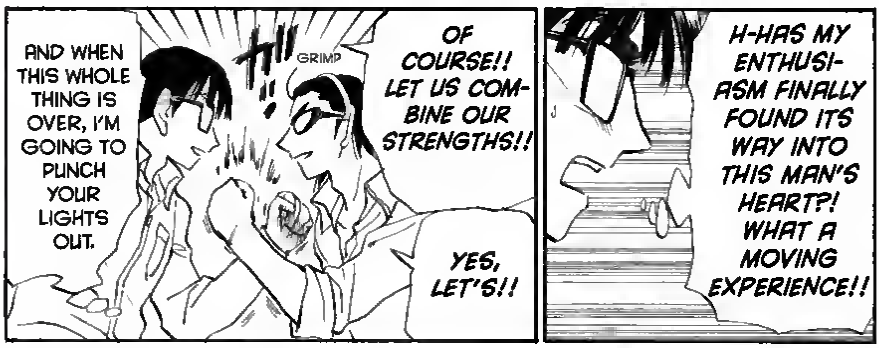
NEE-SAN, YOU FORGOT THIS, SO I BROUGHT IT.

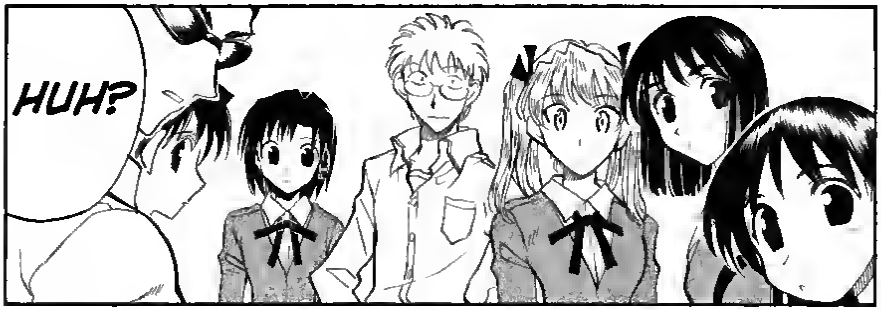
YES, THAT IS EXACTLY IT!!

AH...
HARIMA-SEMPAI, SAWACHIKA-SEMPAI... HELLO.
EH?
POFF
WOW! LIFE IS GOOD FOR YOU, YAKUMO!
AFTER SCHOOL...
HM?
HANAI!
WE'RE ALL SET TO SPEND THE NIGHT AT SCHOOL TOO. THAT'S OKAY, RIGHT?
(BAND PRACTICE CAN BE PRETTY ROUGH.
YOU, FUYUKI? YOU CAN'T BE TRUSTED.
TELL ME NOW WHAT YOU'RE PLOTTING, AND I'LL GIVE YOU MY PERMISSION.
WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?!

GOOD NEWS, HUH, KARASUMA?
YES.
FINE!! YOU CAN STAY!! YOU CAN STAY!!
JUST GET OUT OF HERE!
BUT THEN, I WOULD WONDER WHAT YOU'RE PLANNING TO DO WITH SUÔ AFTER YOU'VE CHASED US AWAY?
UM... UH, THIS ISN'T A TEA PARTY, YOU KNOW...
I BROUGHT LOTS OF SNACKS!
AND CAKES TOO!
THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE EVER SLEPT OVER AT SCHOOL.
IT'S KIND OF EXCITING!
HMM... THAT EXPLAINS A LOT.
WELL, WELL. KARASUMA-KUN IS SLEEPING OVER TOO.
...HAS COME!!!!
MY CHANCE...

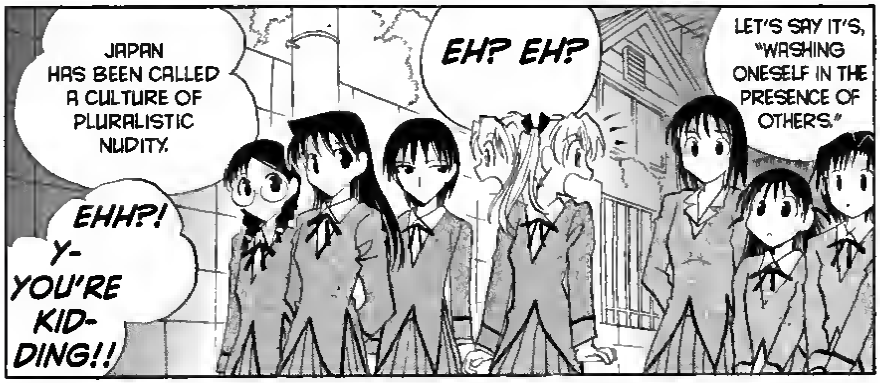
GLASS-HANRI-KUN..
HM?
SO...
I WANT TO SLEEP OVER!!
WHA—?!
ZAAN
I'M A BRAND-NEW MAN! I WANT TO WORK! TO SACRIFICE MY BODY FOR THE SAKE OF EVERYONE IN THE CLASS!!

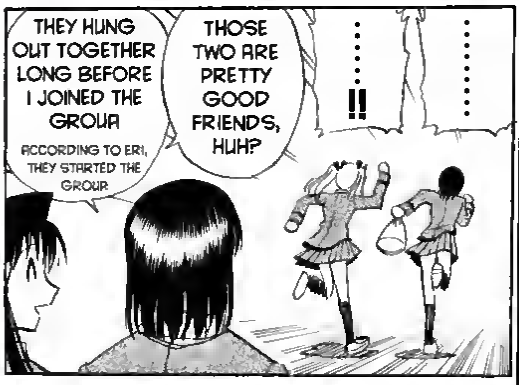

AND WHEN THIS WHOLE THING IS OVER, I'M GOING TO PUNCH YOUR LIGHTS OUT.
GRIMP
OF COURSE!! LET US COMBINE OUR STRENGTHS!!
YES, LET'S!!
H-HAS MY ENTHUSIASM FINALLY FOUND ITS WAY INTO THIS MAN'S HEART?! WHAT A MOVING EXPERIENCE!!

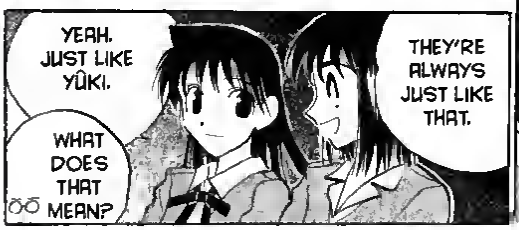


Overexcited (Nara).

114 · · · · · · · · Fin

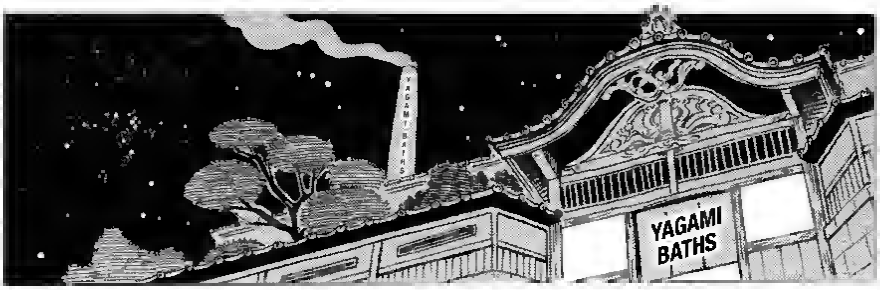

JAPAN HAS BEEN CALLED A CULTURE OF PLURALISTIC NUDITY.
EHH?! Y-YOU'RE KID-DING!!
EH? EH?
LET'S SAY IT'S, "WASHING ONESELF IN THE PRESENCE OF OTHERS."

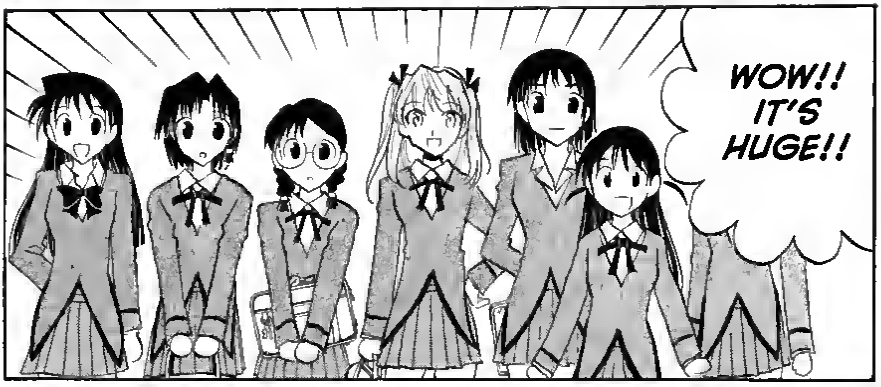

THEY HUNG OUT TOGETHER LONG BEFORE I JOINED THE GROUP.
ACCORDING TO ERI, THEY STARTED THE GROUP.
THOSE TWO ARE PRETTY GOOD FRIENDS, HUH?
!!



CALM DOWN, SAWACHIKA-SAN. THE MEN BATHE SEPARATELY, SO...
MIXED BATHING HAS ITS PLEASURES.
IN SEEING AND BEING SEEN.
NO WAY! IMPOS-SIBLE!!
FOR ME!!
A-AREN'T YOU EMBAR-RASSED TO DO THAT?!
I MEAN.

#115 SHE'S THE ONE


YAGAMI BATHS
YAGAMI BATHS

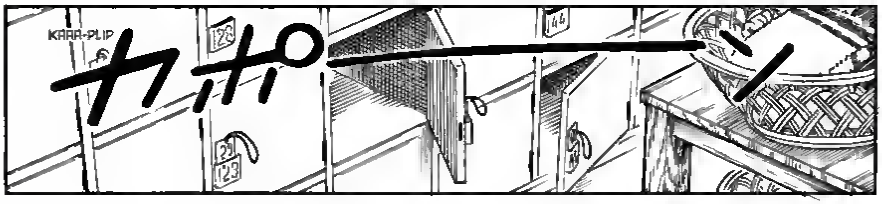

WOW!! IT'S HUGE!!

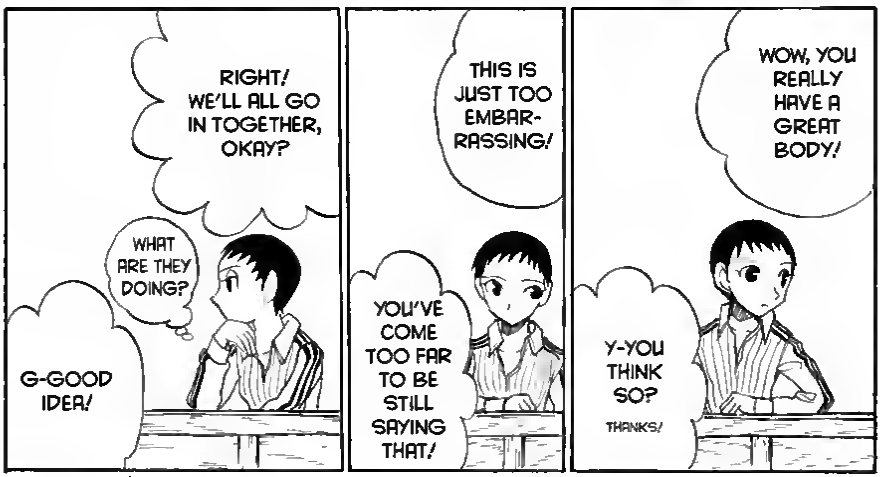
WHY IS IT?! THE GIRLS ARE SO CLOSE, BUT...
...WE CAN'T SEE THEM!
YAGAMI BATHS
HOW-EVER ...!!
THIS IS WHAT WE CALL PARADISE!! (EVERY MALE PRESENT)
RIGHT...
LET'S GO...
WHAT'S WITH THE INTEN-SITY?
SHK
LEAVE EVERY-THING TO ME!!
FUYUKI, IS YOUR CAMERA READY?!
WE CAN OVERCOME ANY OBSTA-CLE! THAT'S WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A MAN!

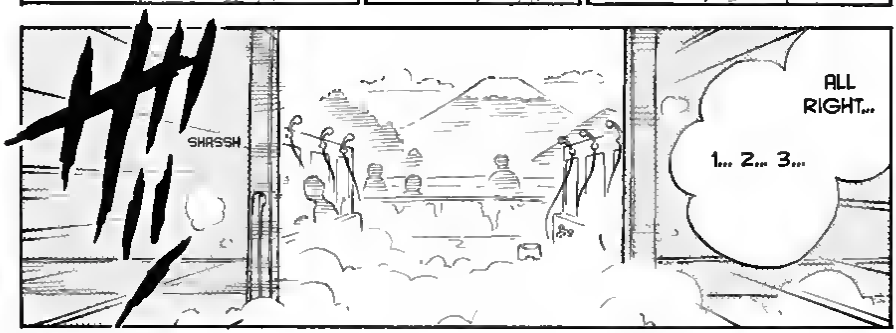
HM...?
HUH? DIDN'T YOU KNOW? MY FAMILY RUNS THIS PLACE.
SAGANO ARRANGED IT WITH US AND EVERYTHING.
WHA—?!
I DON'T EVEN LOOK.
IT DOESN'T MATTER. I'M USED TO IT.
MURMUR
YOU DO IT FIRST!
MURMUR
HURRY UP AND STRIP, YOU GUYS!

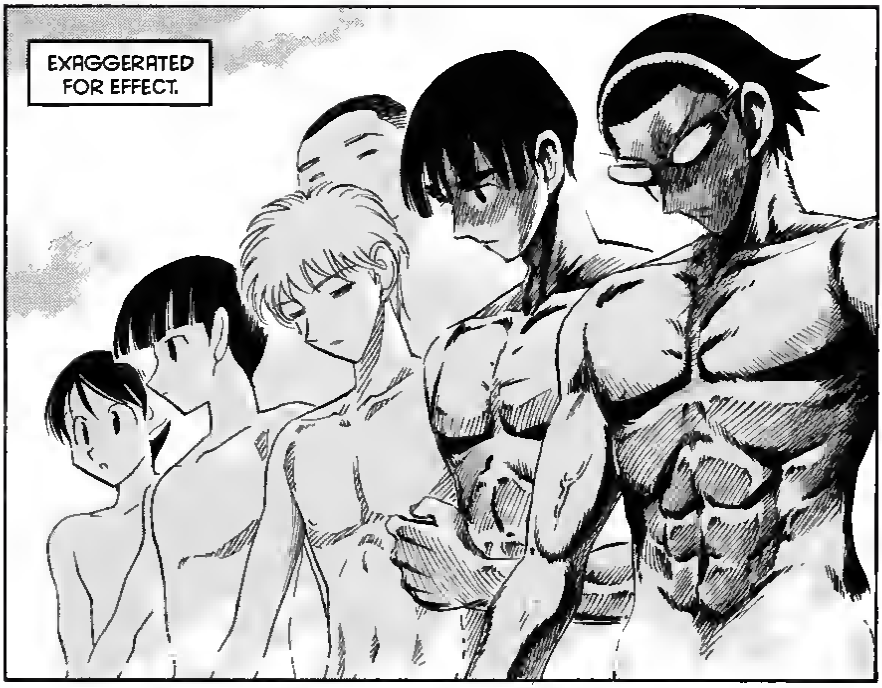
IF I CHANGED MY HAIRSTYLE...
...I WONDER WHAT THEY'D SAY...?
EH?/ ARE YOU REALLY?
THAT'D BE SUCH A WASTE!
EH?
UH, YEAH... JUST WONDERING WHAT IT WOULD BE LIKE...
SAWACHIKA, WHAT'RE YOU STARING AT? YOU'RE NOT THINKING OF GETTING IT CUT, ARE YOU?
SEE! YOU CAN'T ARGUE WITH AN EXPERT LIKE SAWACHIKA-SAN!
EH?/
EHHHHH?!
YOU MUST BE KIDDING ME!!
HUH? I THINK YOUR FACE LOOKS CUTE JUST AS IT IS, ICHIJÔ-SAN.
U-UM...
I WAS WONDERING IF YOU COULD TEACH ME HOW TO APPLY MAKEUP...
SAWACHIKA-SAN, THAT FULL-BODIED HAIR OF YOURS IS ALREADY A TREASURE OF THE SCHOOL!

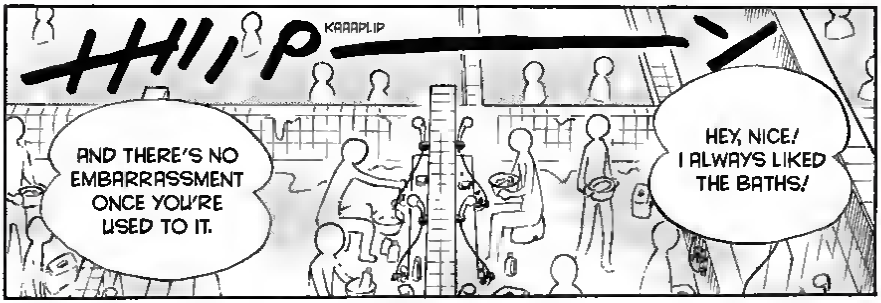
YOU EXERCISE SO MUCH, THERE ISN'T ANY EXCESS FLAB ON YOU!
KARERIN, YOU'RE SO CUTE! AND I KNOW! I CAN TELL!!
EVERYBODY, TELL HER WHAT YOU THINK!
I-I AM NOT! REALLY!
THIS GIRL REALLY IS A COMPLETE WALLFLOWER!

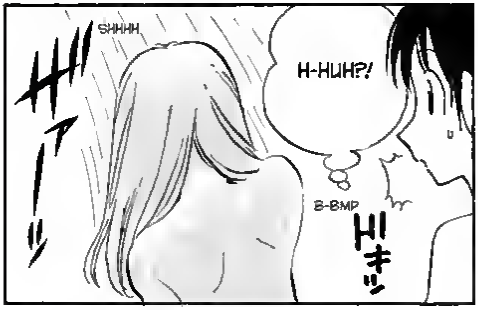

KARA-PLIP
ガヤ


RIGHT! WE'LL ALL GO IN TOGETHER, OKAY?
WHAT ARE THEY DOING?
G-GOOD IDEA!
THIS IS JUST TOO EMBARRASSING!
YOU'VE COME TOO FAR TO BE STILL SAYING THAT!
WOW, YOU REALLY HAVE A GREAT BODY!
Y-YOU THINK SO?
THANKS!

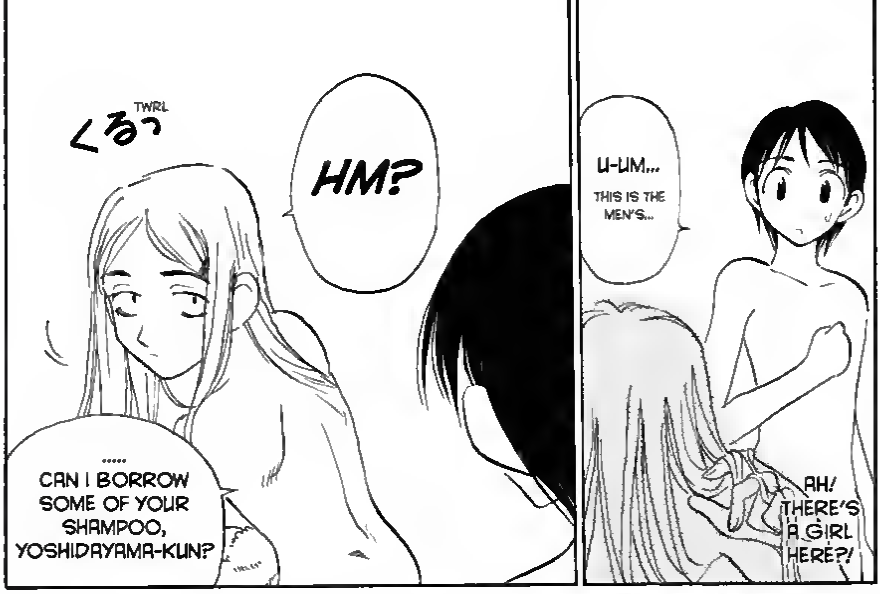

SHASSH
ALL RIGHT...
1... 2... 3...

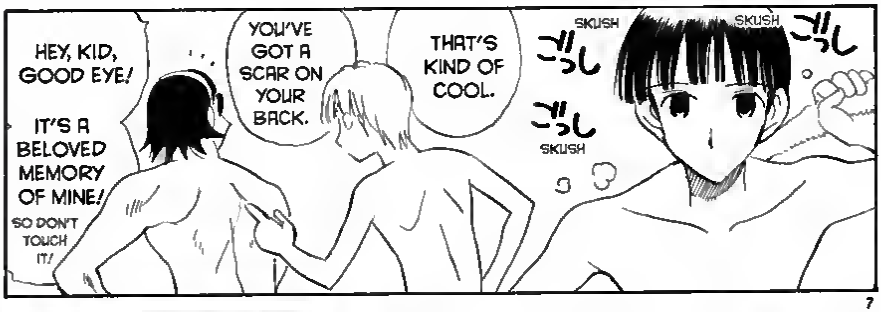

EXAGGERATED FOR EFFECT.


HHIP
KAAAPLIP
AND THERE'S NO EMBARRASSMENT ONCE YOU'RE USED TO IT.
HEY, NICE! I ALWAYS LIKED THE BATHS!

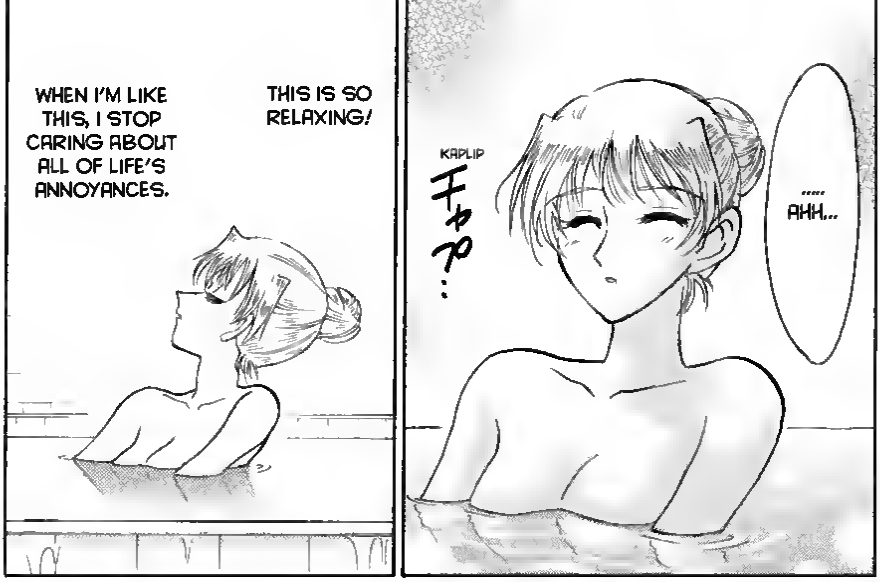

SHHH
H-HUH?!
B-BMP
HI
HIIIIII

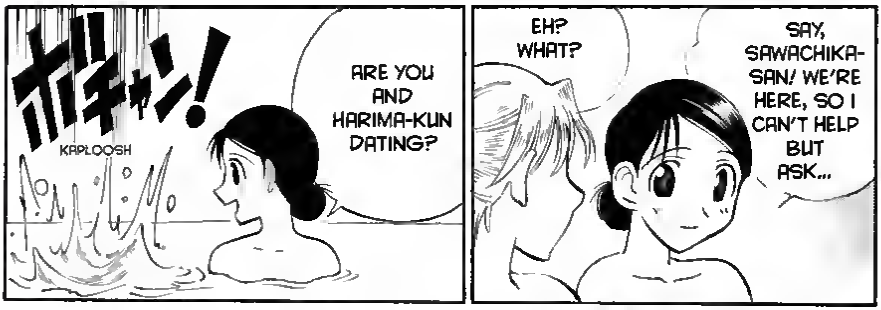
WHO ARE YOU TALK-ING TO?
MR PERVERT WITH GLASSES.
YOU'D SETTLE FOR THIS?! HUH?! HUH?!

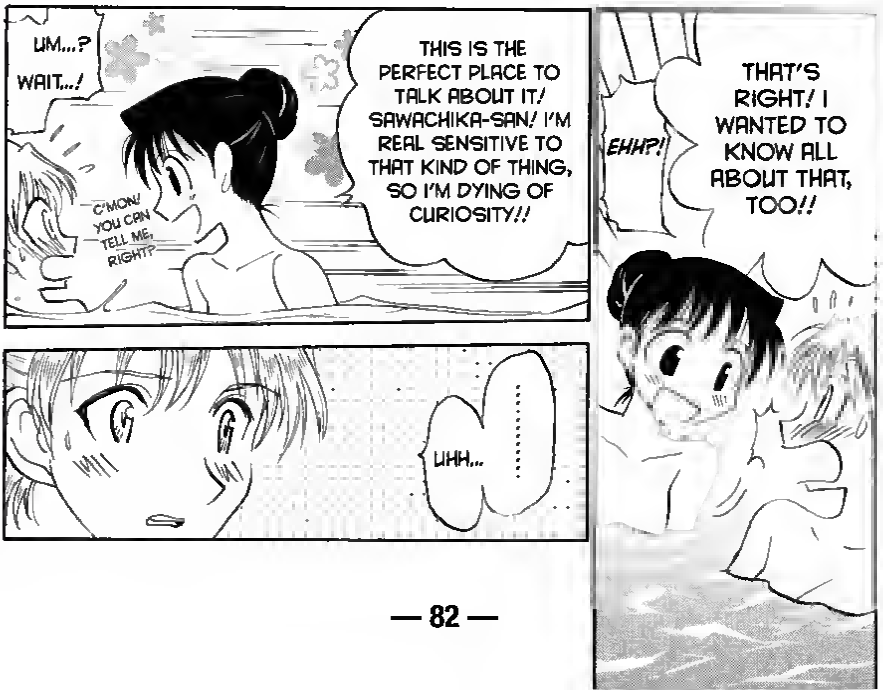

TWRL
くるっ
HM?
.....
CAN I BORROW SOME OF YOUR SHAMPOO, YOSHIDAYAMA-KUN?
U-UM...
THIS IS THE MEN'S...
AH! THERE'S A GIRL HERE?!


HEY, KID, GOOD EYE!
IT'S A BELOVED MEMORY OF MINE!
SO DON'T TOUCH IT!
YOU'VE GOT A SCAR ON YOUR BACK.
THAT'S KIND OF COOL.
SKUSH
SKUSH
SKUSH

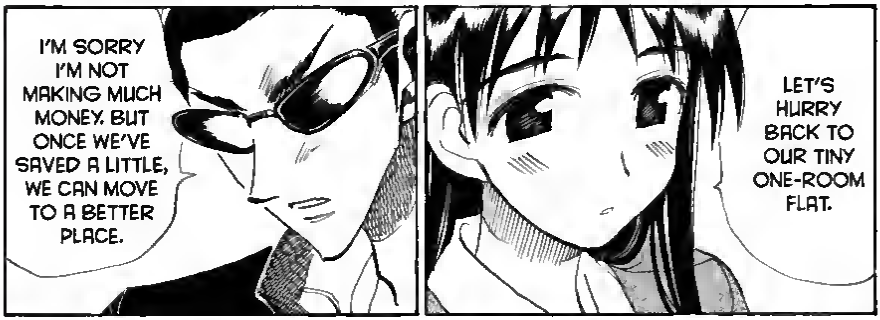
EVERY-ONE HAS TOO MUCH TIME ON THEIR HANDS.
IT'S A DEAL!
COME ON, MIKO-CHAN, LET'S ALL DO IT TO-GETHER!!
AH! YEAH, LET'S!
KARERIN! LET'S WASH EACH OTHER'S BACKS!!
KARA-PLIP


WHEN I'M LIKE THIS, I STOP CARING ABOUT ALL OF LIFE'S ANNOYANCES.
THIS IS SO RELAXING!
KAPLIP
チャプ…
…… AHH…

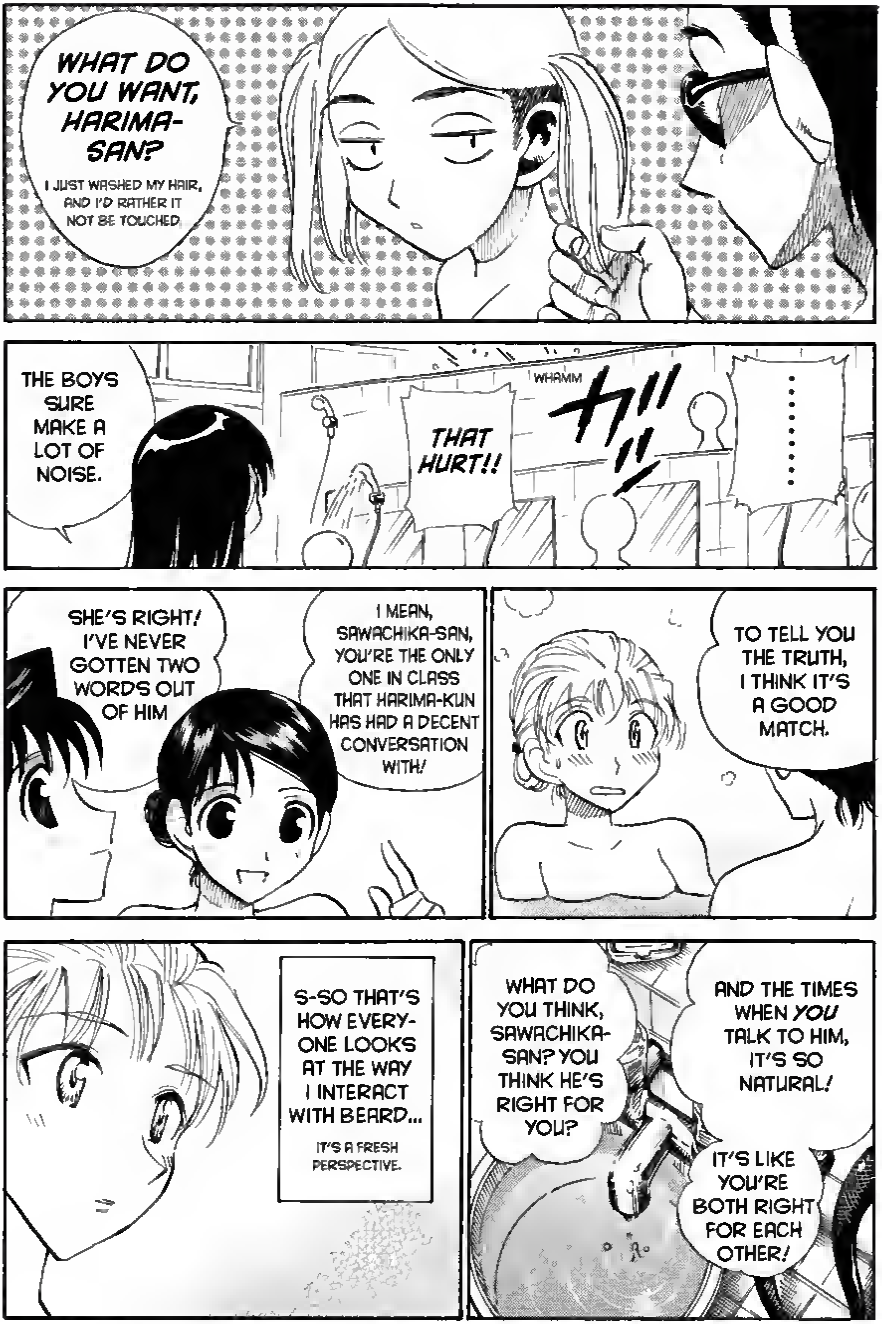

ホゥキャン!
KAPLOOSH
ARE YOU AND HARIMA-KUN DATING?
EH? WHAT?
SAY, SAWACHIKA-SAN! WE'RE HERE, SO I CAN'T HELP BUT ASK…


UM…? WAIT…!
C'MON! YOU CAN TELL ME, RIGHT?
THIS IS THE PERFECT PLACE TO TALK ABOUT IT! SAWACHIKA-SAN! I'M REAL SENSITIVE TO THAT KIND OF THING, SO I'M DYING OF CURIOSITY!!
EHH?!
THAT'S RIGHT! I WANTED TO KNOW ALL ABOUT THAT, TOO!!
UHH…

I'VE BEEN WAITING SO LONG, I'M SICK OF IT!
YOU CAN'T KEEP A GIRL WAITING LIKE THAT!
WHAT'S THIS? HAVE YOU BEEN WAITING FOR ME ALL THIS TIME?
HAHH... THAT WAS A GOOD BATH.

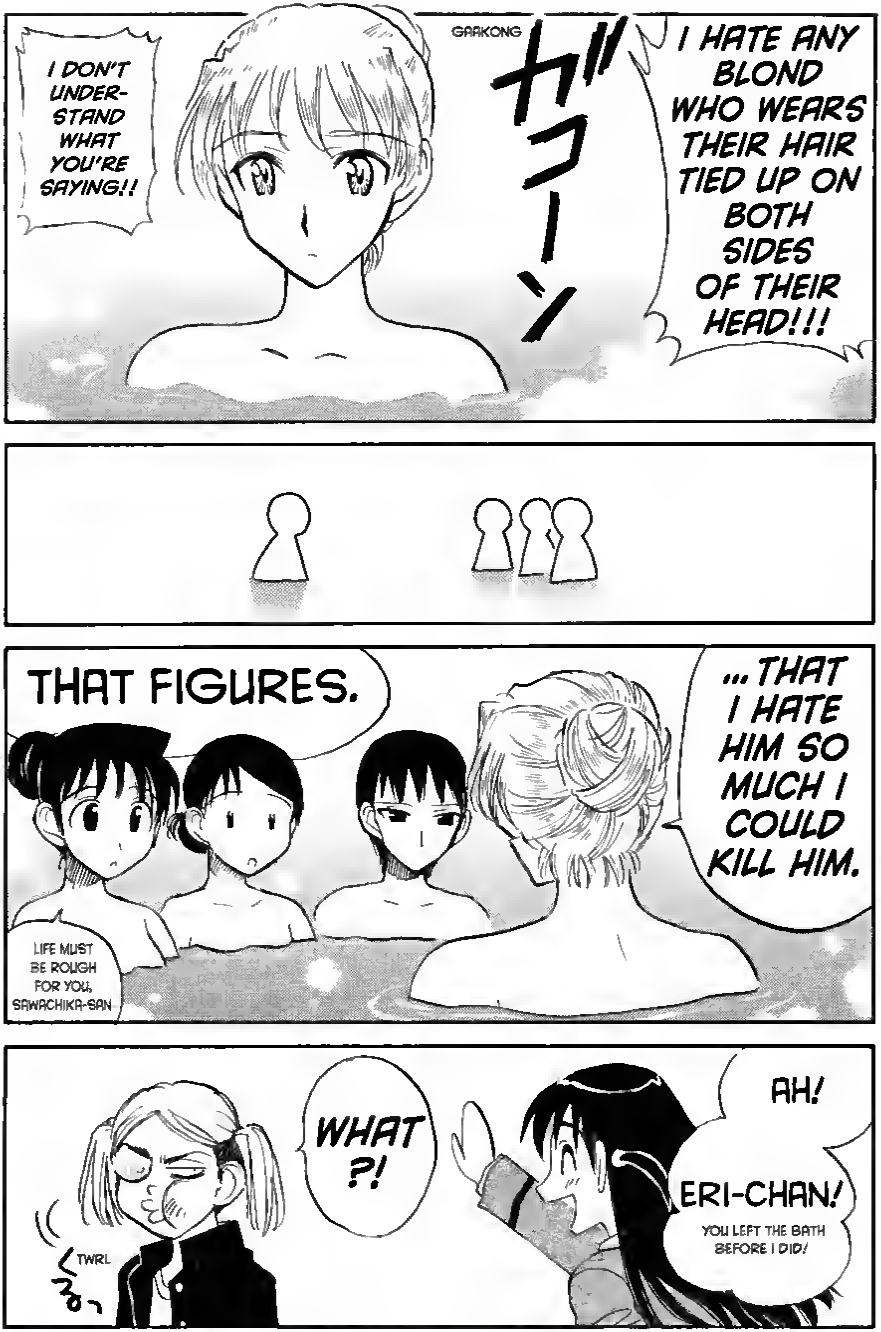

I'M SORRY I'M NOT MAKING MUCH MONEY. BUT ONCE WE'VE SAVED A LITTLE, WE CAN MOVE TO A BETTER PLACE.
LET'S HURRY BACK TO OUR TINY ONE-ROOM FLAT.

I LOVE YOU...
YOU LITTLE DUMMY. YOU WAITED SO LONG FOR ME THAT YOUR HAIR IS NEARLY FROZEN. HERE, I'LL WARM IT FOR YOU.


WHAT DO YOU WANT, HARIMA-SAN?
I JUST WASHED MY HAIR, AND I'D RATHER IT NOT BE TOUCHED.
THE BOYS SURE MAKE A LOT OF NOISE.
WHAMM
THAT HURT!!
SHE'S RIGHT! I'VE NEVER GOTTEN TWO WORDS OUT OF HIM
I MEAN, SAWACHIKA-SAN, YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE IN CLASS THAT HARIMA-KUN HAS HAD A DECENT CONVERSATION WITH!
TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH, I THINK IT'S A GOOD MATCH.
S-SO THAT'S HOW EVERY-ONE LOOKS AT THE WAY I INTERACT WITH BEARD...
IT'S A FRESH PERSPECTIVE.
WHAT DO YOU THINK, SAWACHIKA-SAN? YOU THINK HE'S RIGHT FOR YOU?
AND THE TIMES WHEN YOU TALK TO HIM, IT'S SO NATURAL!
IT'S LIKE YOU'RE BOTH RIGHT FOR EACH OTHER!

HONESTLY, IT EVEN SURPRISES ME.
...I'M NEVER PUTTING ON A FALSE FRONT OR FAKING A LAUGH.
WHEN I TALK TO HIM...
IT'S TRUE...
I WONDER...
I CAN'T SAY I'VE MADE UP MY MIND...
...BUT...
MY...
...FEELINGS FOR HARIMA-KUN ARE...

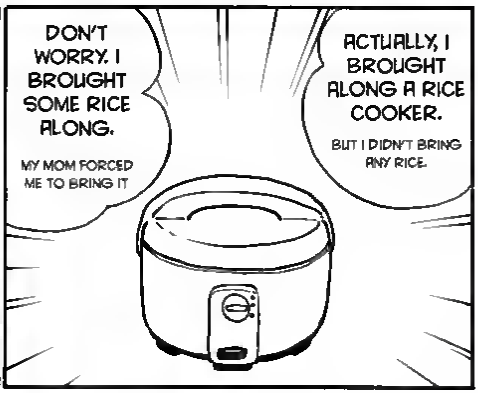
Ehhh...?

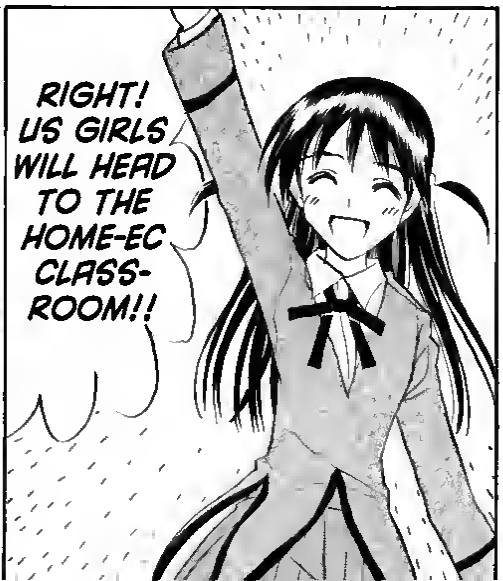

I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU'RE SAYING!!
GAAKONG
ガーコーン
I HATE ANY BLOND WHO WEARS THEIR HAIR TIED UP ON BOTH SIDES OF THEIR HEAD!!!
THAT FIGURES.
LIFE MUST BE ROUGH FOR YOU, SAWACHIKA-SAN
...THAT I HATE HIM SO MUCH I COULD KILL HIM.
WHAT?!
TWRL
AH!
ERI-CHAN!
YOU LEFT THE BATH BEFORE I DID!

Similar with Sawachika as Well.

115 · · · · · · · · · Fin

#116 SMALL-TIME CROOKS


DON'T WORRY. I BROUGHT SOME RICE ALONG.
MY MOM FORCED ME TO BRING IT
ACTUALLY, I BROUGHT ALONG A RICE COOKER.
BUT I DIDN'T BRING ANY RICE.



KACLIK
SAWACHIKA-SAN, YOUR FACE IS GETTING MORE AND MORE PHOTO-GENIC!
THAT'S REAL GOOD!
MOOD! IT'S TO CREATE A MOOD!
THAT'S VERY IMPORTANT TO RUNNING A BUSINESS!
YOU DON'T NEED PHOTOS FOR THAT.
S-SAY, WHAT ARE YOU USING THESE FOR?
IT'S A DANCE-HALL CAFÉ, RIGHT?
ROLLL ROLLL
WE SURE HAVE BEEN WAITING!!
I MEAN, IT'S WORTH WAITING FOR!
SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAIT-ING!!
2-C
HEH-HEHN!
HM... THEY'RE SEPARATED INTO A BUNCH OF DIFFERENT DISHES.

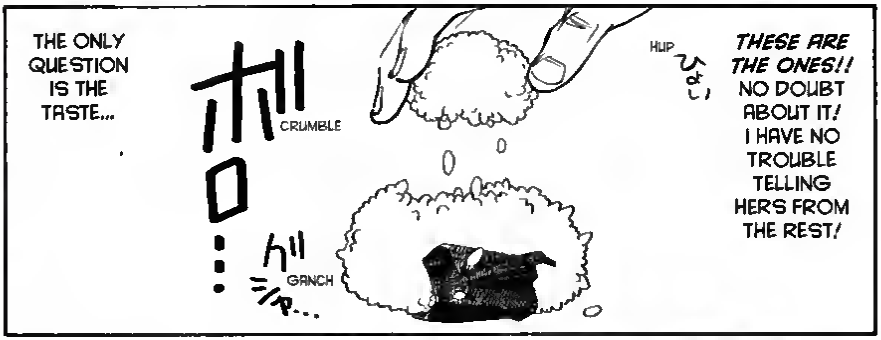
WHAT DO YOU THINK?!
BEFORE YOU EAT, PAY CLOSE ATTENTION!
YOU'LL BE EXPECTED TO PICK WHO MADE THE RICE BALL THAT YOU'RE EATING.

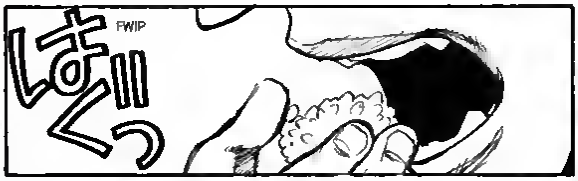
WHA—?!
I...GUESS SO...
RIGHT, KARERIN?
IT'S ONLY NATURAL, RIGHT? OTHERWISE WHAT WOULD BE THE POINT IN MAKING THEM!!

THEY CAN EASILY SAY, "PICK THE ONE WHO MADE IT"...
SAWACHIKA-SAN'S WILL BE MINE!!
I WONDER IF KARASUMA-KUN WILL EAT MINE.
GAH! HOW COULD THEY?!
THIS COULD TURN INTO A DISASTER!!

BUT THOSE ARE TOO EASY.
I'VE EATEN MORE OF THEM THAN I CAN COUNT
GLANCE
MAYBE I'LL JUST FIND A DIFFERENT ONE.
DON'T EVEN TRY IT.
YOU DID, YÛKI-KUN? NO WONDER!
I-I WAS THE ONE WHO MADE THOSE.
EH? REALLY?
MM! THESE ARE GOOD!
TH-THANK YOU.
WRONGO! THOSE ARE MINE.
I'M THE DAUGHTER OF A RESTAURATEUR!
THESE ARE GREAT! THESE HAVE TO BE THE ONES MADE BY ICHIJÔ!

SHKK
THOSE ARE TENMA-CHAN'S RICE BALLS!
THAT'S THE ONLY THING TO DO! JUST FIND TENMA-CHAN'S RICE BALLS AND TELL HER HOW DELICIOUS THEY ARE...


THE ONLY QUESTION IS THE TASTE...
CRUMBLE
GANCH
HUP
THESE ARE THE ONES!! NO DOUBT ABOUT IT! I HAVE NO TROUBLE TELLING HER'S FROM THE REST!


FWIP

ZHAKYUUN

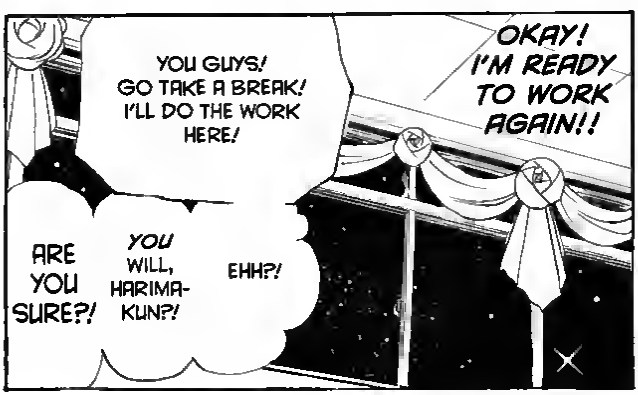
TH-THEY'RE EVEN BETTER THAN I EXPECTED!!
SHIVER SHIVER SHIVER

I AM PREPARED!!

B-BUT IF THIS REALLY IS THE TASTE OF YOUR COOKING...
?
...THEN I'M ONE HAPPY MAN!!
GWIP
MY FEELINGS GOT THROUGH TO YOU!! THIS IS WONDERFUL, TENMA-CHAN!!
GWIP
AT A TIME LIKE THIS, I REALLY CAN'T BE PICKY!!
POP
I'M A LITTLE WORRIED ABOUT THE SQUARE SHAPE, BUT...
AH! HOW ABOUT THESE! THEY'RE CLEANLY ROLLED.
I HAVE TO GET RID OF THE AFTER-TASTE...
BUT... URK... THIS ISN'T GOOD...
WOBBLE

I NEVER IMAGINED THAT ANYONE COULD OUTDO TENMA-CHAN!! I'M SHOCKED!!
I-IT'S IMPOSSIBLE!!
I DON'T BELIEVE IT! HOW COULD SUCH A THING HAPPEN?!

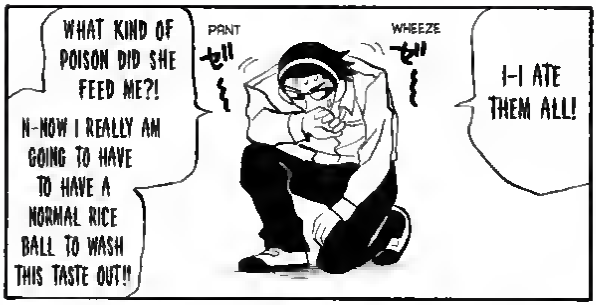
SLIGHTLY HAPPY ABOUT THAT.
SO TENMA-CHAN WASN'T THE WORST COOK OF THE GROUP..

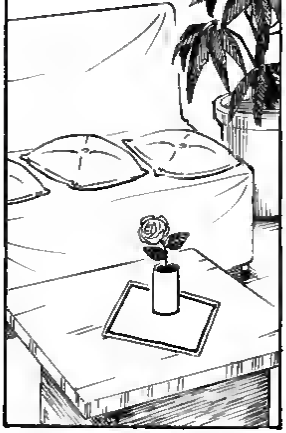

YOU GUYS! GO TAKE A BREAK! I'LL DO THE WORK HERE!
OKAY! I'M READY TO WORK AGAIN!!
ARE YOU SURE?!
YOU WILL, HARIMA-KUN?!
EHH?!

YOU'RE...
...KIDDING!!!

SO HE HAS SOME GOOD POINTS AFTER ALL!
I DON'T GET IT, BUT I'LL JUST ACCEPT IT AS GOOD LUCK.
HARIMA'S FINALLY WILLING TO WORK! I CONSIDER THIS A PERSONAL VICTORY!
A RESULT OF MY STRUGGLES AS CLASS REPRESENTATIVE!!
UM... LISTEN, BEARD...
HUH?
2-C
WHAT? NOBODY'S EATING YOURS?
I-I CAN'T CLEAN THIS UNTIL THEY'RE EATEN, SO IF YOU WANT THEM...
TH-THANKS FOR WHAT YOU DID BEFORE.
I DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING AT THE TIME, BUT...
HUH? WHAT DID I DO?

ZHAKYUUN...
HUH
WELL, IF YOU'RE GIVING THEM AWAY...
POP
IT CAN'T BE...!!
TH-THIS TASTE...!!
DRIP DRIP


WHAT KIND OF POISON DID SHE FEED ME?!
N-NOW I REALLY AM GOING TO HAVE TO HAVE A NORMAL RICE BALL TO WASH THIS TASTE OUT!!
PANT
WHEEZE
I-I ATE THEM ALL!



I... I KNOW THAT VOICE! TEN... TSUKA-MOTO!!
HARIMA-KUN!!

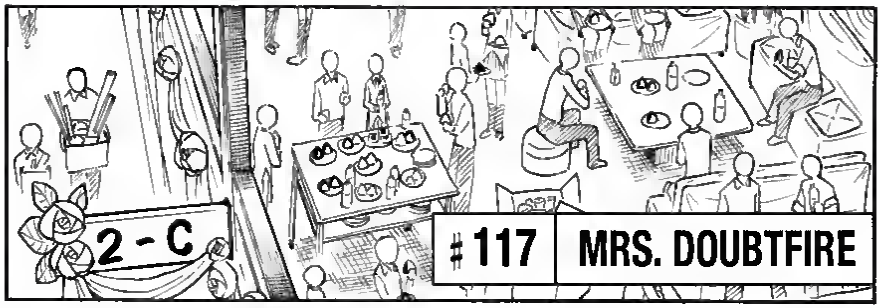
WHAT DO I THINK I'M DOING? I'M ACTING LIKE A FOOL! ALTHOUGH I DON'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT IT, I THOUGHT I'D TRY OFFERING MY RICE BALLS TO SOMEONE. WELL, IT DOESN'T MATTER.
IT'S BEST NOT TO DWELL ON IT

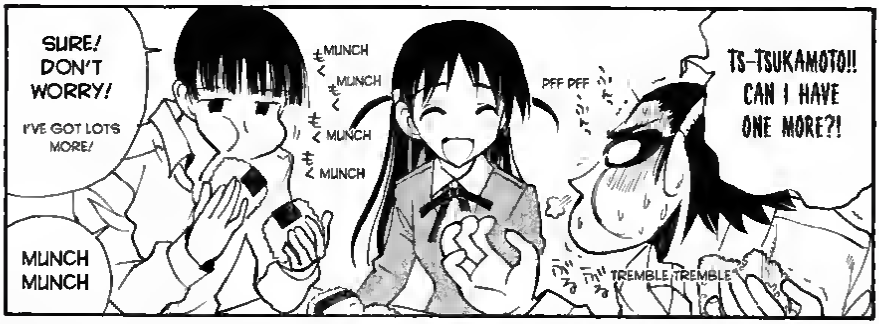
NICE TIMING! THAT'S MY TENMA-CHAN!!
WHA-?!
YOU'RE REALLY WORKING HARD, HUH? I BROUGHT SOMETHING TO GIVE TO YOU!!
SOMETHING SPECIAL FOR TODAY ONLY!

HERE!
EH...?
SO THAT'S HOW IT IS.
GRANCH
パク
GRIN GRIN にこー
EAT UP! たべて
EAT UP! たべて
TREMBLE TREMBLE
ふる ふる...

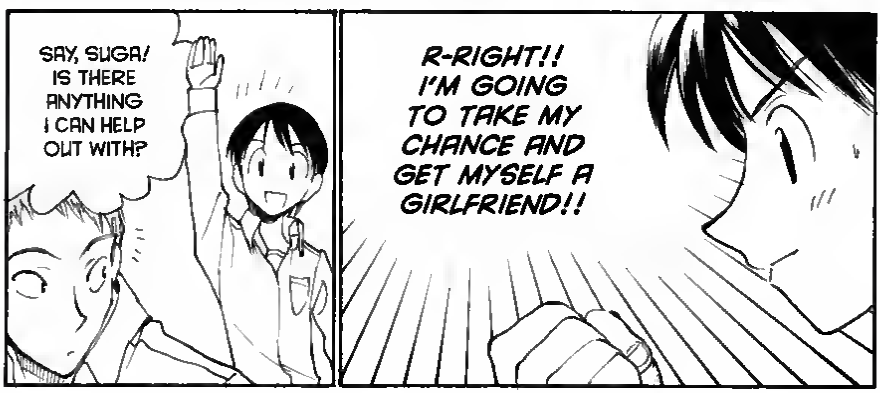
REALLY?! ALL RIGHT!!
TREMBLE
TREMBLE
TREMBLE
SHIVER
SHIVER
TREMBLE
TREMBLE
TREMBLE
I-IT'S DELICIOUS!!
THEN I'LL GIVE YOU ALL OF THEM!!
SO EAT UP!!
2-C
EAT A LOT! THEY'LL GIVE YOU ENERGY!
PFF
PFF
THEY'RE GOOD! REAL GOOD! SO GOOD! MMM! MM?!
I CAN'T WORK ANYMORE...
.... TENMA-CHAN... YOU WERE THE WORST AFTER ALL--

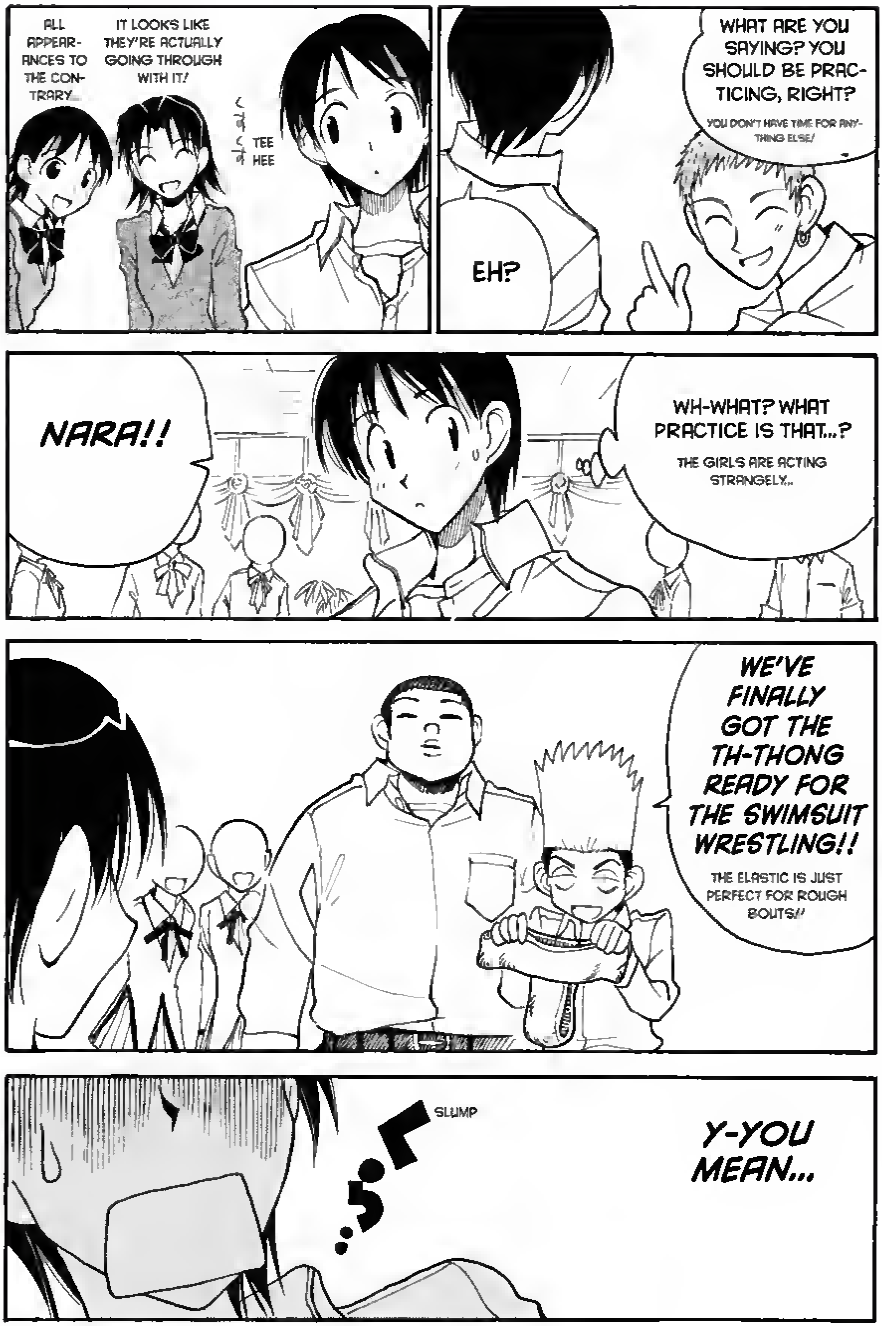
116.....Fin

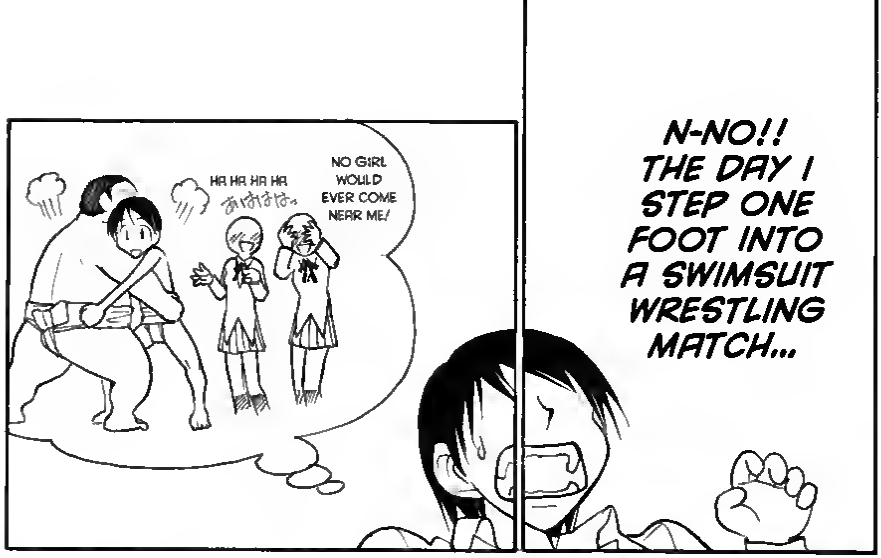

2-C
#117
MRS. DOUBTFIRE

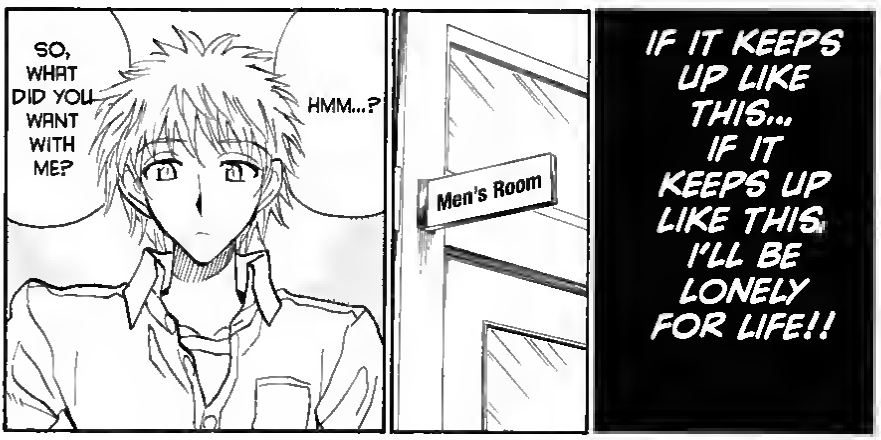

SURE! DON'T WORRY!
I'VE GOT LOTS MORE!
MUNCH MUNCH
MUNCH
MUNCH
MUNCH
MUNCH
PFF PFF
TS-TSUKAMOTO!! CAN I HAVE ONE MORE?!
TREMBLE TREMBLE

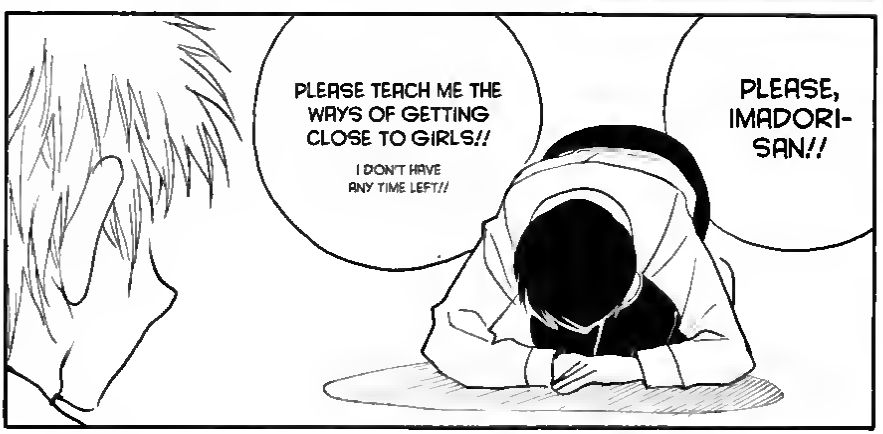
THERE'LL BE ALL KINDS OF GIRLS COMING! GIRLS FROM OTHER CLASSES... GIRLS FROM OTHER SCHOOLS...
WOW! TOMORROW IS THE CULTURAL FAIR! FINALLY!


SAY, SUGA! IS THERE ANYTHING I CAN HELP OUT WITH?
R-RIGHT!! I'M GOING TO TAKE MY CHANCE AND GET MYSELF A GIRLFRIEND!!

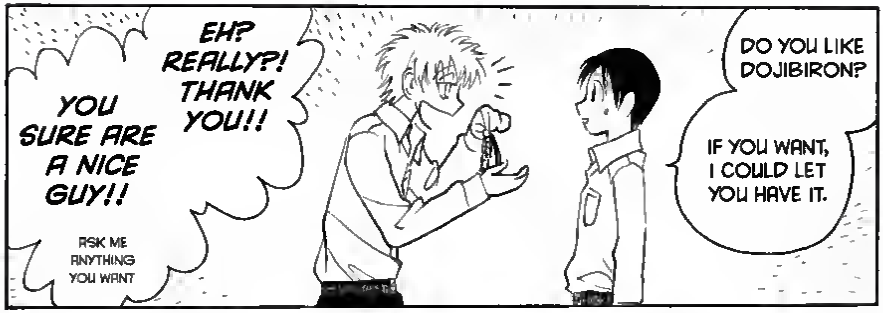

ALL APPEARANCES TO THE CONTRARY...
IT LOOKS LIKE THEY'RE ACTUALLY GOING THROUGH WITH IT!
TEE HEE
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? YOU SHOULD BE PRACTICING, RIGHT?
YOU DON'T HAVE TIME FOR ANYTHING ELSE!
EH?
NARA!!
WH-WHAT? WHAT PRACTICE IS THAT...?
THE GIRLS ARE ACTING STRANGELY...
WE'VE FINALLY GOT THE TH-THONG READY FOR THE SWIMSUIT WRESTLING!!
THE ELASTIC IS JUST PERFECT FOR ROUGH BOUTS!!
SLUMP
Y-YOU MEAN...


N-NO!! THE DAY I STEP ONE FOOT INTO A SWIMSUIT WRESTLING MATCH...
NO GIRL WOULD EVER COME NEAR ME!
HA HA HA HA
あはははは。

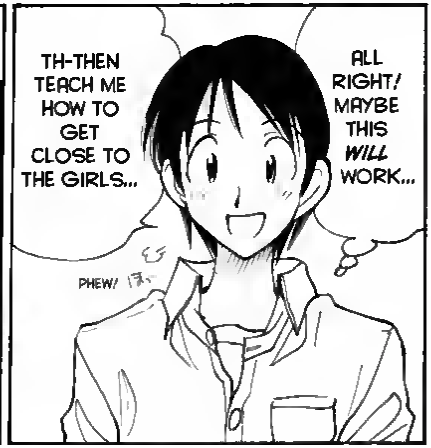

SO, WHAT DID YOU WANT WITH ME?
HMM...?
Men's Room
IF IT KEEPS UP LIKE THIS... IF IT KEEPS UP LIKE THIS, I'LL BE LONELY FOR LIFE!!

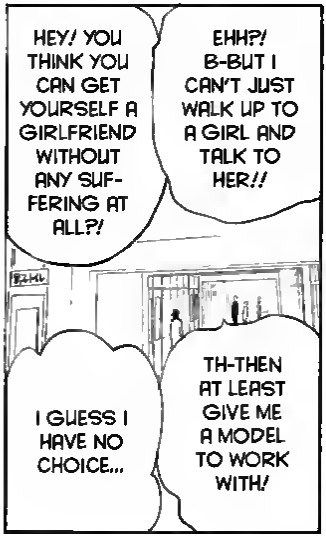

PLEASE TEACH ME THE WAYS OF GETTING CLOSE TO GIRLS!!
I DON'T HAVE ANY TIME LEFT!!
PLEASE, IMADORI-SAN!!

HMM...
YOU ALWAYS TALK TO THE GIRLS LIKE IT'S NOTHING SPECIAL, IMADORI-KUN!
SO I FIGURED THAT YOU KNOW SOME FOOLPROOF METHOD OF GETTING CLOSE TO THEM!
WH-WHAT'LL I DO?! AS IT IS, I'LL BE AVOIDED BY ALL THE GIRLS!!
Y-YOU'RE KIDDING!!
I-I'LL DO ANYTHING!!
IT ISN'T SOMETHING THAT YOU CAN TEACH.
HM? WHAT'S HE STARING AT...?
?
STARE
I GUESS I'M FATED TO BE A SWIMSUIT WRESTLER...
HA HA..
THE DOJIBIRON CELL PHONE STRAP?!
I-IT CAN'T BE THE ULTRA-RARE ITEM THAT I STOOD IN LINE ALL NIGHT TO GET...
DOZIVI


DO YOU LIKE DOJIBIRON?
IF YOU WANT, I COULD LET YOU HAVE IT.
EH? REALLY?! THANK YOU!!
YOU SURE ARE A NICE GUY!!
ASK ME ANYTHING YOU WANT

VYUUUUM!
SHUUUUU!


TH-THEN TEACH ME HOW TO GET CLOSE TO THE GIRLS...
ALL RIGHT! MAYBE THIS WILL WORK...
PHEW!

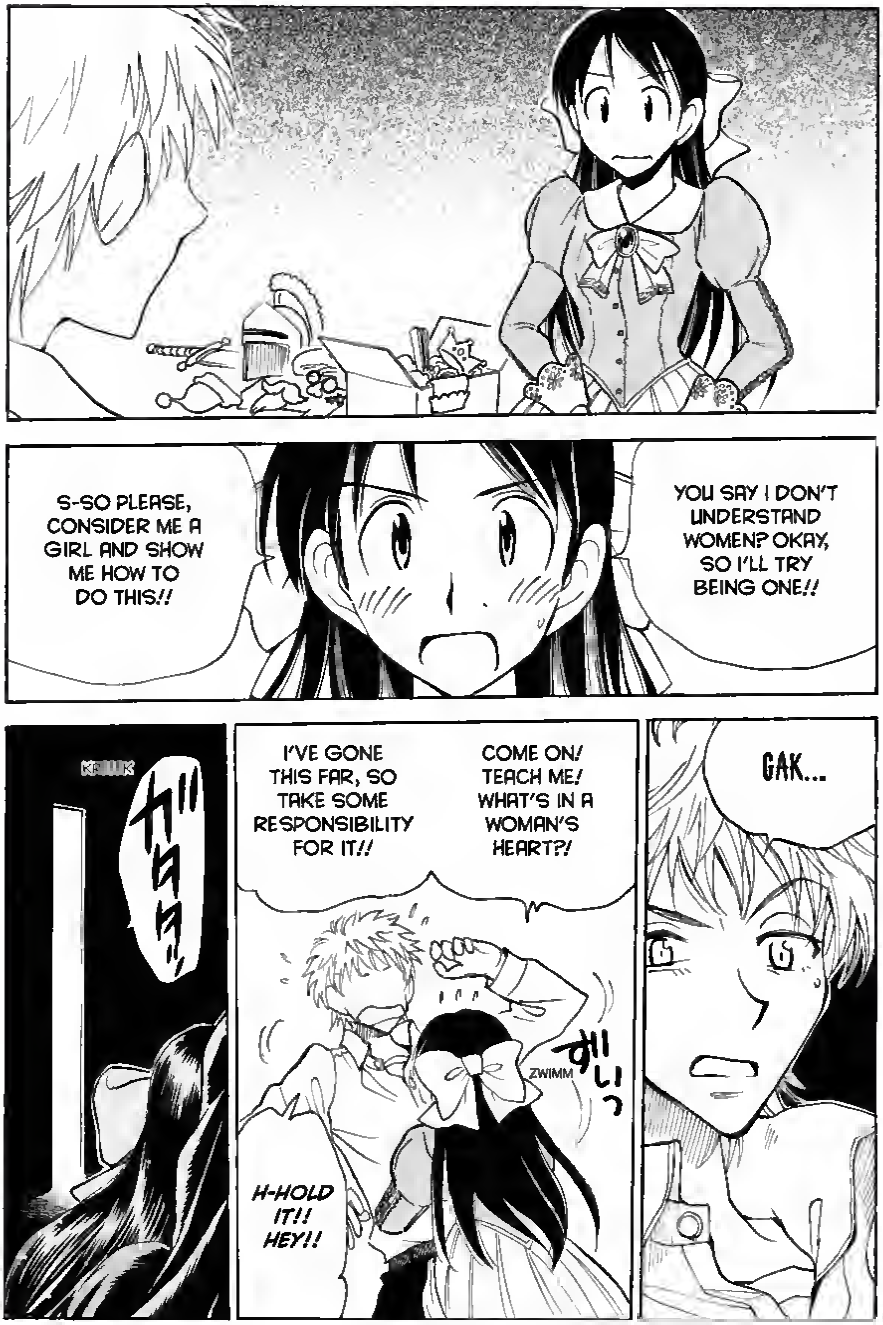

HEY! YOU THINK YOU CAN GET YOURSELF A GIRLFRIEND WITHOUT ANY SUFFERING AT ALL?!
EHH?! B-BUT I CAN'T JUST WALK UP TO A GIRL AND TALK TO HER!!
I GUESS I HAVE NO CHOICE...
TH-THEN AT LEAST GIVE ME A MODEL TO WORK WITH!

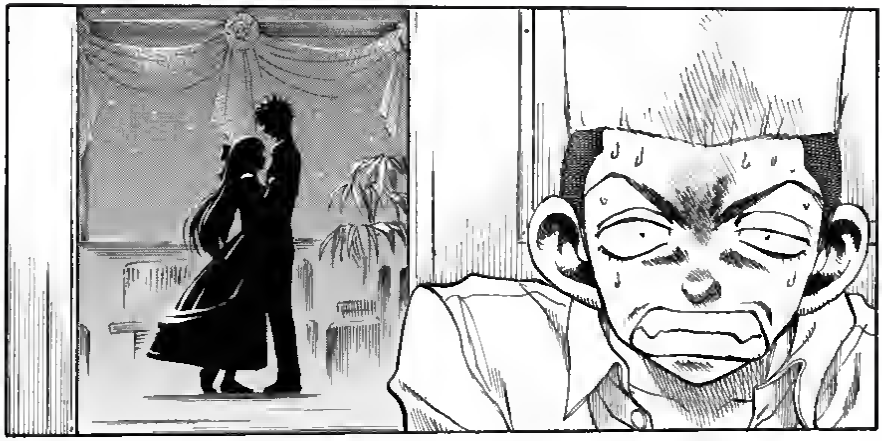
OKAY. FIRST, TRY PICKING UP A GIRL.

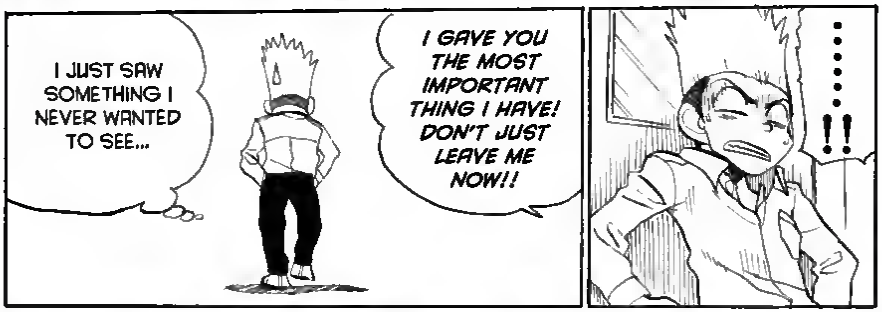
EH...? WHAT? YOU'VE GOT A QUESTION OR SOMETHING?
I-IMADORI-KUN! ARE YOU LISTENING TO ME?!
COME ON!!

OH! GOOD MORNING, IMADORI-KUN!
YO, ICHI-SAN!
HE'S WEARING ME OUT PLAYING DOJIBIRON TAG.
OH! DOJIBIRON PINK! NOT MY COLOR, THOUGH.
YES! RECENTLY I'VE BEEN WATCHING IT WITH MY LITTLE BROTHER.
WE'VE EVEN BOUGHT MASKS.
DID YOU SEE DOJIBIRON LAST WEEK?
YEAH! SEE YOU!
WELL, I'LL SEE YOU!
I HAVE TO GO TO BAND PRACTICE.
SO THAT'S IT! PULL THE GIRLS INTO MY WORLD...
AND THAT'S ABOUT IT. IF YOU PULL THEM INTO YOUR WORLD, IT MAKES THINGS GO A LOT EASIER.
O-OKAY, I'LL TRY IT!!
RIGHT!!

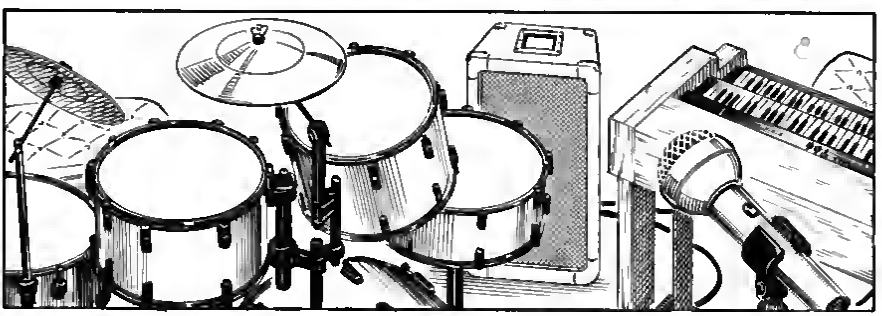
MASK
NOBODY'S WILLING TO COME IN...
NOBODY WATCHES POJIBIRON.
IF I LET THIS GO ON, MY STUDENT LIFE WILL COME TO A COMPLETE END!!
KACHIK
WH-WHAT ARE YOU SAY-ING?!
FORGET IT! YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND WOMEN! GIVE IT UP!
HM?
KACHAK
I-IMADORI-KUN!!


S-SO PLEASE, CONSIDER ME A GIRL AND SHOW ME HOW TO DO THIS!!
YOU SAY I DON'T UNDERSTAND WOMEN? OKAY, SO I'LL TRY BEING ONE!!
KRUUK
ガラッ
I'VE GONE THIS FAR, SO TAKE SOME RESPONSIBILITY FOR IT!!
COME ON! TEACH ME! WHAT'S IN A WOMAN'S HEART?!
ZWIMM
むにっ
H-HOLD IT!! HEY!!
GAK...




I JUST SAW SOMETHING I NEVER WANTED TO SEE...
I GAVE YOU THE MOST IMPORTANT THING I HAVE! DON'T JUST LEAVE ME NOW!!
!!

Yagami Festival



YEAH! LET'S KEEP THIS ENERGY RIGHT TO THE END!
...SO WE'RE CERTAIN TO MAKE THIS A SUCCESS!!
WE'VE GIVEN IT THIS MUCH PRACTICE TIME...
CHATTER
EHP IT'S TOO EARLY FOR THAT!
I'M SO NERVOUS I COULD DIE!
CHATTER

THIS CULTURAL FESTIVAL IS THE TIME WHEN I WILL TELL TENMA-CHAN HOW I FEEL!
SCHNOOR
WELL DONE.
YOU'RE GOING TO CATCH COLD!
Yagami Festival

The Cultural Fair Opens with Emotions and Expectations.

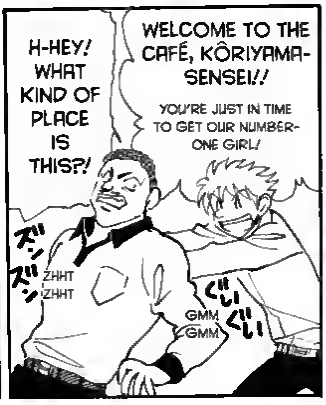
117 · · · · · · · · Fin

The Cultural Fair Begins!! Now Appearing, Goriyama-Sensei, Who Suggested Class 2-C's Entry.

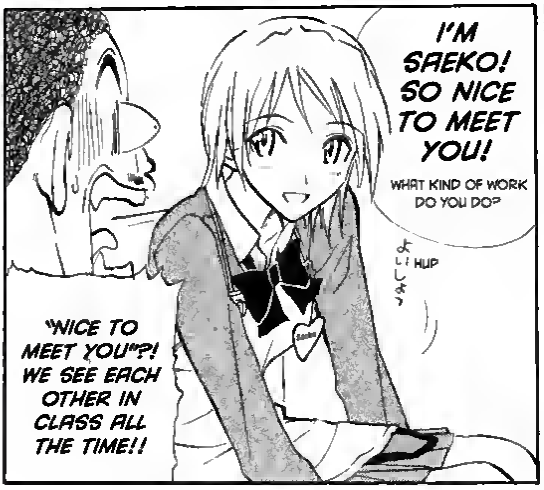
#118 CARNIVAL STORY

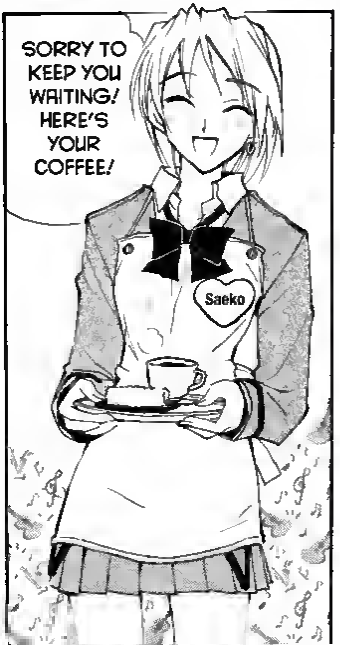
CHATTER CHATTER
CHATTER CHATTER
CHATTER CHATTER
キャッキャッ
キャッ
キャッ
キャッ
キャッ

HUH?!
WE HAVE A SYSTEM HERE WHERE YOU CHOOSE YOUR DRINK AND THE GIRL WHO BRINGS IT!
girls
Saeko
Kaori
Mikoto


H-HEY! WHAT KIND OF PLACE IS THIS?!
WELCOME TO THE CAFÉ, KÔRIYAMA-SENSEI!!
YOU'RE JUST IN TIME TO GET OUR NUMBER-ONE GIRL!
ZHHT ZHHT
GMM GMM

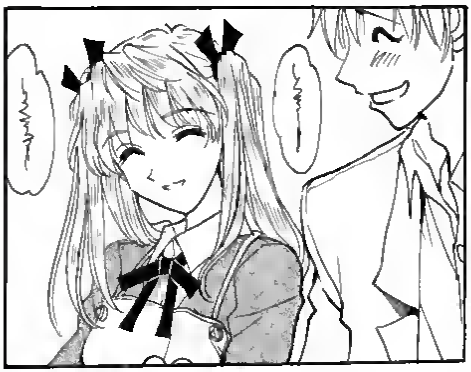
WH-WHAT IS THIS...?!

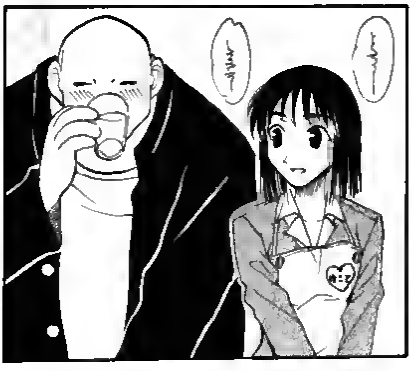

"NICE TO MEET YOU"?! WE SEE EACH OTHER IN CLASS ALL THE TIME!!
I'M SAEKO! SO NICE TO MEET YOU!
WHAT KIND OF WORK DO YOU DO?
HUP
Saeko


SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING! HERE'S YOUR COFFEE!
Saeko

THERE'S "MS. TRAP" SAEKO WITH HER KILLER ATTACK AGAIN!
EVEN GORIYAMA'S ON THE ROPES.
..... RIGHT...
THERE I GO, PICKING ON PEOPLE AGAIN! ♡
TAKE YOUR TIME AND ENJOY YOURSELF

STARE
EH? YOU SAY WE'VE MET BEFORE? IS THAT YOUR WAY OF PICKING ME UP?
A TEACHER WOULD NEVER TRY TO PICK A STUDENT UP!!



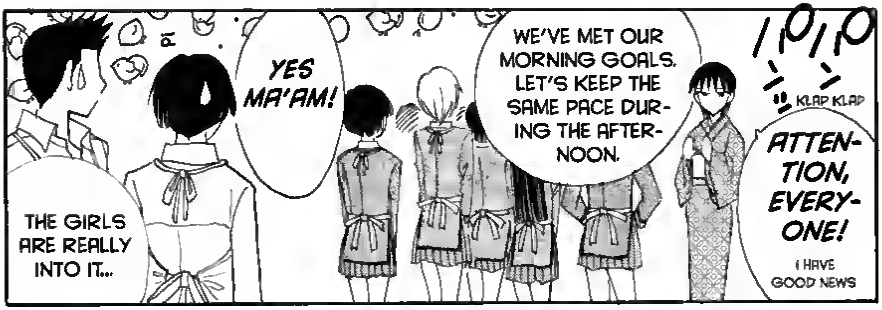


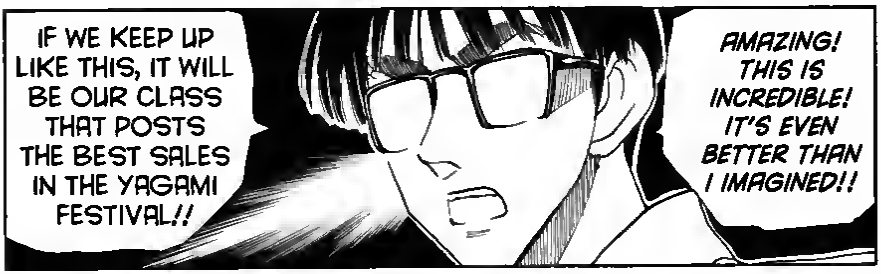
M-MADOKA... YOU'RE JUST ACTING, RIGHT? IT'S JUST FOR TODAY, RIGHT?
HERE, I'LL SEND YOU A COPY. WHAT'S YOUR ADDRESS?
YOUR BACKGROUND IS SO CUTE!!
I WISH I HAD A DOG!

BUT SHE CAN'T BEAT SAGANO-SAN!
I NEVER THOUGHT A GIRL COULD HOLD HER OWN ON BASS LIKE THAT!
ICHIJÔ-SAN IS SO CUTE!
LIKE A SINGING ANGEL!

Mi
Toki
7
6
5
4
3
2
1
Mihara
Tsukamoto
Nagayama
Yukino
I GUESS...
...I'M JUST NOT CUT OUT FOR THIS KIND OF WORK.
SAY... IS IT THAT I JUST DON'T HAVE ANY CHARM...
Girls' Room
O-OKAY!
TSUKAMOTO-SAN, TAKANO IS CALLING YOU.
YOU'RE JUST NOT USED TO IT, TSUKAMOTO-SAN!
YOU'LL BE OKAY!
THAT'S RIGHT! BESIDES, IT'S A LOT OF WORK WHEN THEY REQUEST YOU.

TENMA-CHAN, IT SEEMS YOU ARE DEPRESSED FROM THE LACK OF PEOPLE REQUESTING YOUR SERVICES.
Y-YES... I DON'T THINK THIS WORK IS RIGHT FOR ME...
HUHP
POFF
YOU REMIND ME SO MUCH OF ME IN MY YOUNGER YEARS.
EH? BUT MAMA, I COULD NEVER BE AS BEAUTIFUL AS YOU...
I WAS SO SHY AND LACKING IN SELF-CONFI-DENCE...
WE'RE TRULY TWO OF A KIND.
HOWEVER, TENMA-CHAN... YOU CAN REST ASSURED THAT YOU HAVE CHARMS OF YOUR OWN.
HEY!! WE REALLY NEED SOME HELP!!
IT'S BUSY OVER HERE!!
OH, MAMA!! I'LL NEVER SAY THE WORD "QUIT" AGAIN!!
FORGIVE ME!!
NEVER GIVE UP! YOU WILL BE THE BRIGHTEST STAR IN THE CAFÉ'S FIRMAMENT!


THE GIRLS ARE REALLY INTO IT...
YES MA'AM!
WE'VE MET OUR MORNING GOALS. LET'S KEEP THE SAME PACE DURING THE AFTERNOON.
KLAP KLAP
ATTENTION, EVERYONE!
I HAVE GOOD NEWS


IF WE KEEP UP LIKE THIS, IT WILL BE OUR CLASS THAT POSTS THE BEST SALES IN THE YAGAMI FESTIVAL!!
AMAZING! THIS IS INCREDIBLE! IT'S EVEN BETTER THAN I IMAGINED!!

MASTER, DO YOU HAVE THE FRUIT SALAD SPECIAL READY YET?
AH! I BEG YOUR PARDON! I, HANAI, WILL PUT IN MY BEST EFFORTS!
KACHAK KACHAK

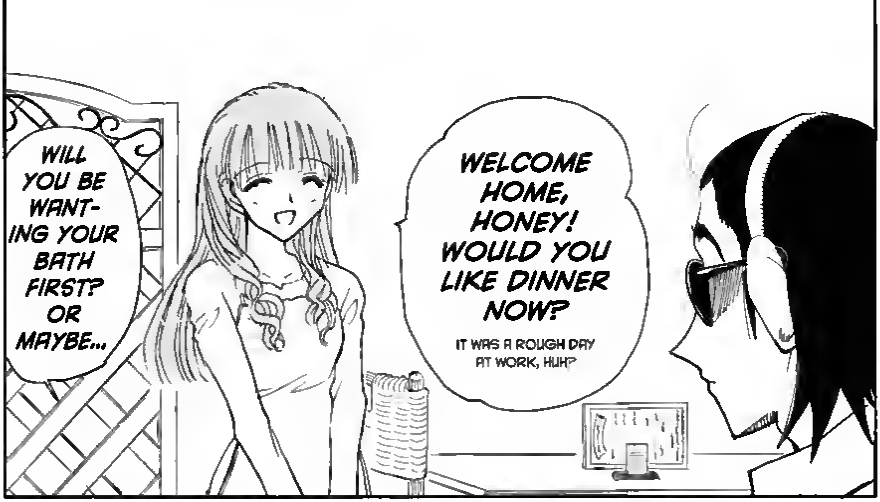
HE'S BACKSTAGE, SO HE HAS NO IDEA WHAT'S GOING ON OUT FRONT.
IT MUST BE THAT PEOPLE WERE INSPIRED BY THE PAINS I WENT THROUGH AS CLASS REPRESENTATIVE!

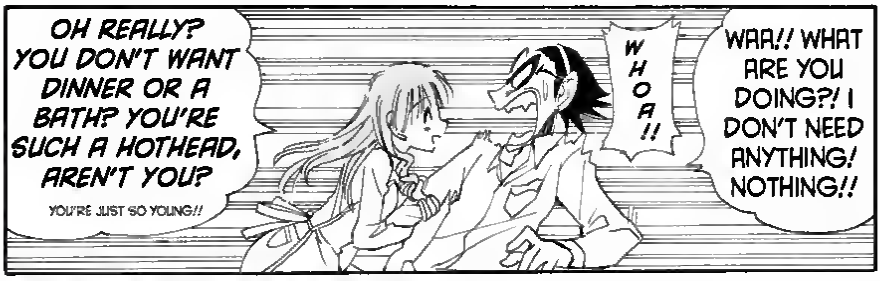
YEAH... BUT I THINK IT'S DUE TO SOME MISUNDERSTANDING...
HANAI REALLY SEEMS DETERMINED!
CHATTER
CHATTER

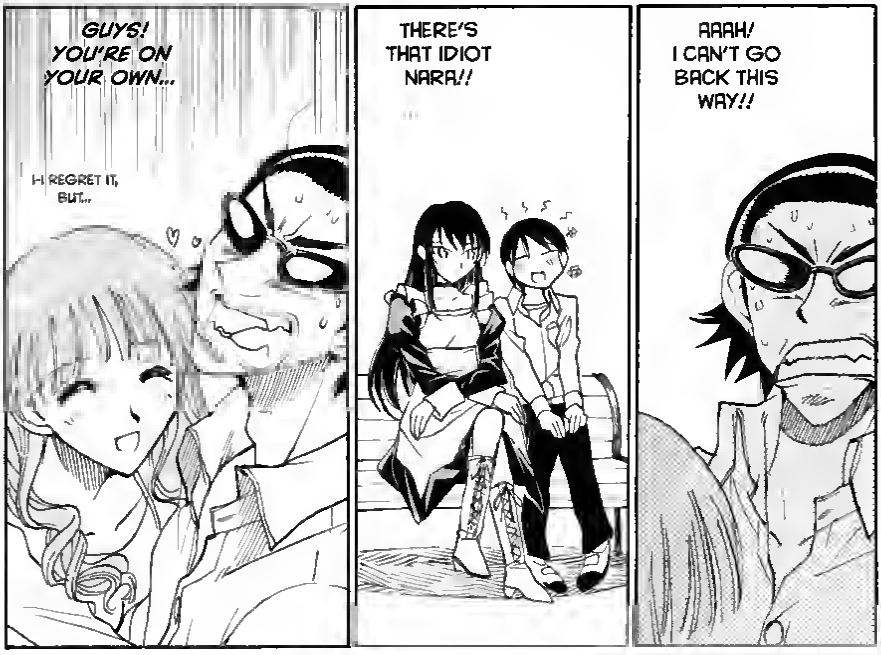
THE CUSTOMERS SUDDENLY STOPPED COMING!!
TMP
HEY! WE'VE GOT TROUBLE!!
IF IT KEEPS UP LIKE THIS, WE'LL GO BANKRUPT!!
THE TEA CLUB HAS STOLEN ALL OF OUR CUSTOMER TRAFFIC!!
HAHH
HAHH
I THOUGHT IT WAS STRANGE, TO STOP LIKE THAT...
Home Economics
THE ONLY WAY TO WIN BACK OUR NUMBER-ONE RANKING IS TO PROVIDE MORE SERVICE THAN THE COMPETITION!!
THIS IS BAD! VERY BAD! WE'RE IN A BATTLE AGAINST TIME!!
THE TEA CLUB CAFÉ?!
A NEW SHOP?!

NARA!! GO RECON-NOITER THE TEA CLUB AND GET BACK HERE QUICK!!
Café Tea Club
SHK
GAK! THIS PLACE LOOKS HARD TO BEAT!
NO... I'VE MADE MY VOW!!
KACHING
カリチャッ!
I WILL FIGHT FOR THOSE IN OUR CAFÉ WHO TOOK ME IN WHEN I WAS LONELY!!
AND PROVIDED ME WITH A CHANCE TO BE POPULAR, THAT I'VE ONLY DREAMED OF!
WELCOME HOME, MASTER! I DO HOPE YOUR BUSINESS TRIP TO AMERICA WENT WELL.

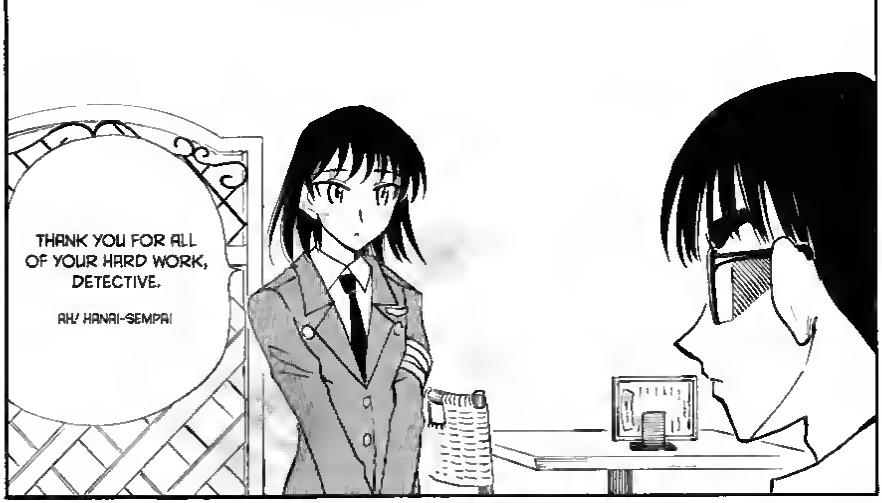
IF THIS KEEPS UP, OUR CAFÉ IS IN DANGER...
KH/ THAT WORTHLESS...
THAT'S WHAT WE GET FOR SENDING SOMEONE WHO WAS ORIGINALLY A PART OF THE SWIMSUIT WRESTLING SQUAD!
DAMN THAT NARA! THEY'VE PROBABLY GOTTEN TO HIM!!
Home Economics
HE'S LATE... HE SHOULD HAVE BEEN BACK LONG AGO!!
IT'S BEEN NEARLY AN ENTIRE HOUR!!
WHA...
ZWIP
OH, HELL! I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU GUYS! I'LL GO!!
HEY!!
I'M COMING IN!!
SHUMP
THEY MAY HAVE GUTS, BUT THEY'RE IN FOR A BIG SURPRISE!
HEH HEH... NOW THEY'VE BROUGHT A DELINQUENT LIKE ME DOWN ON THEMSELVES!
SHK
SHK
JUST LEAVE IT IN MY HANDS.
I GUESS YOU'RE OUR BEST SHOT. DO A GOOD JOB OF IT.
SHK

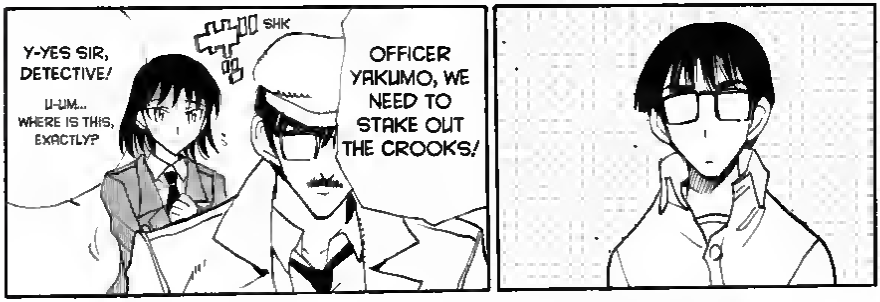

WELCOME HOME, HONEY! WOULD YOU LIKE DINNER NOW?
IT WAS A ROUGH DAY AT WORK, HUH?
WILL YOU BE WANT-ING YOUR BATH FIRST? OR MAYBE...

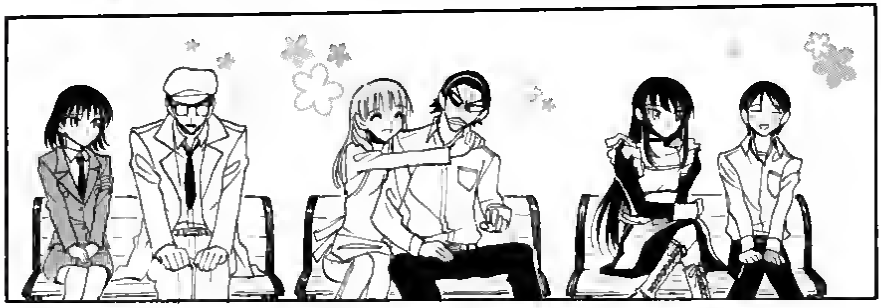

WHOA!!
WAA!! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?! I DON'T NEED ANYTHING! NOTHING!!
OH REALLY? YOU DON'T WANT DINNER OR A BATH? YOU'RE SUCH A HOTHEAD, AREN'T YOU?
YOU'RE JUST SO YOUNG!!

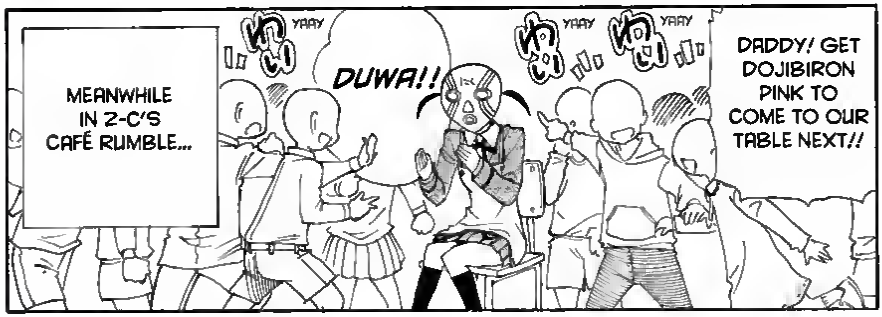

GUYS! YOU'RE ON YOUR OWN...
I REGRET IT, BUT...
THERE'S THAT IDIOT NARA!!
AAAH! I CAN'T GO BACK THIS WAY!!

WE'RE JUST ABOUT OUT OF OPTIONS...
BAMM
DAMMIT!! EVEN HARIMA HAS FALLEN!!
WHAT'S GOING ON OVER THERE?!
Home Economics
HE'S LATE!! HE'S FAR TOO LATE!!
IT'S BEEN MORE THAN TWO HOURS!!
I CAN'T STAND IT! WE'RE JUST TWIDDLING OUR THUMBS HERE!
THEN YOU'RE NO GOOD TO US EITHER!!
BUT I THINK I MUST TELL YOU. YAKUMO-KUN IS IN THE TEA CLUB, SO I'M CERTAIN NEVER TO RETURN.
H-HANAI!!
MAYBE A CLUB'S REP LIKE YOU COULD GET SOMETHING DONE, BUT WHAT IF...
I'LL GO!!
SHK
I HAVE COME!!
DRPP DRPP
DING DING
THIS IS FOR MY CLASS, AND FOR MYSELF AS WELL...!!
HERE I COME, YAKUMO-KUN!!
BUT THERE ARE CERTAIN BATTLES A MAN MUST FACE EVEN KNOWING HE WILL DIE!!
STMP
STMP





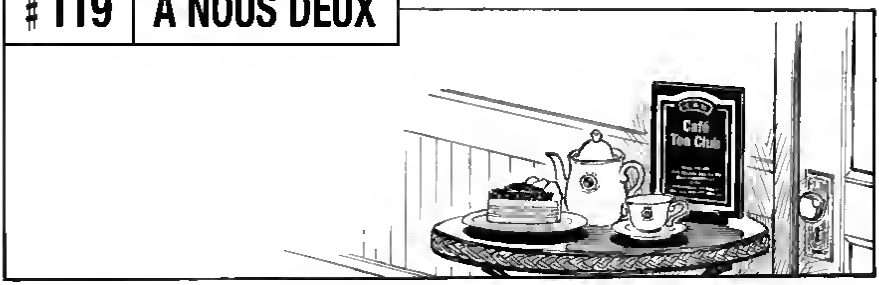


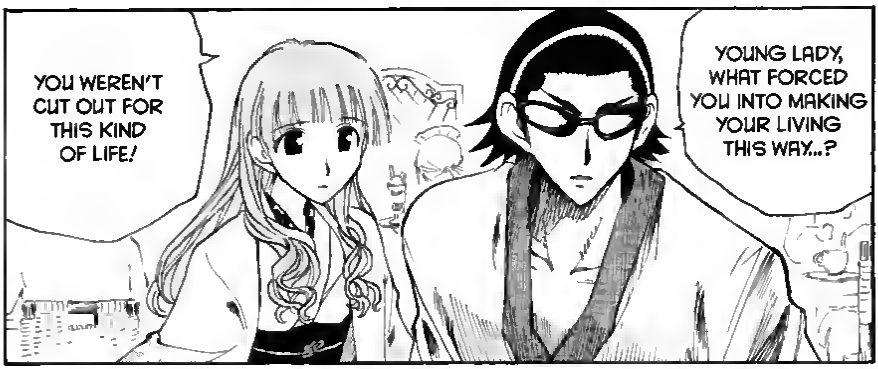


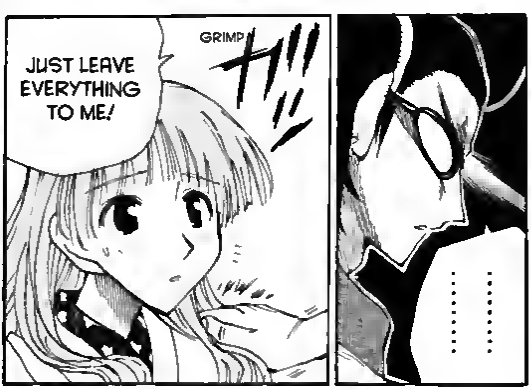
Business Is Good, Huh...

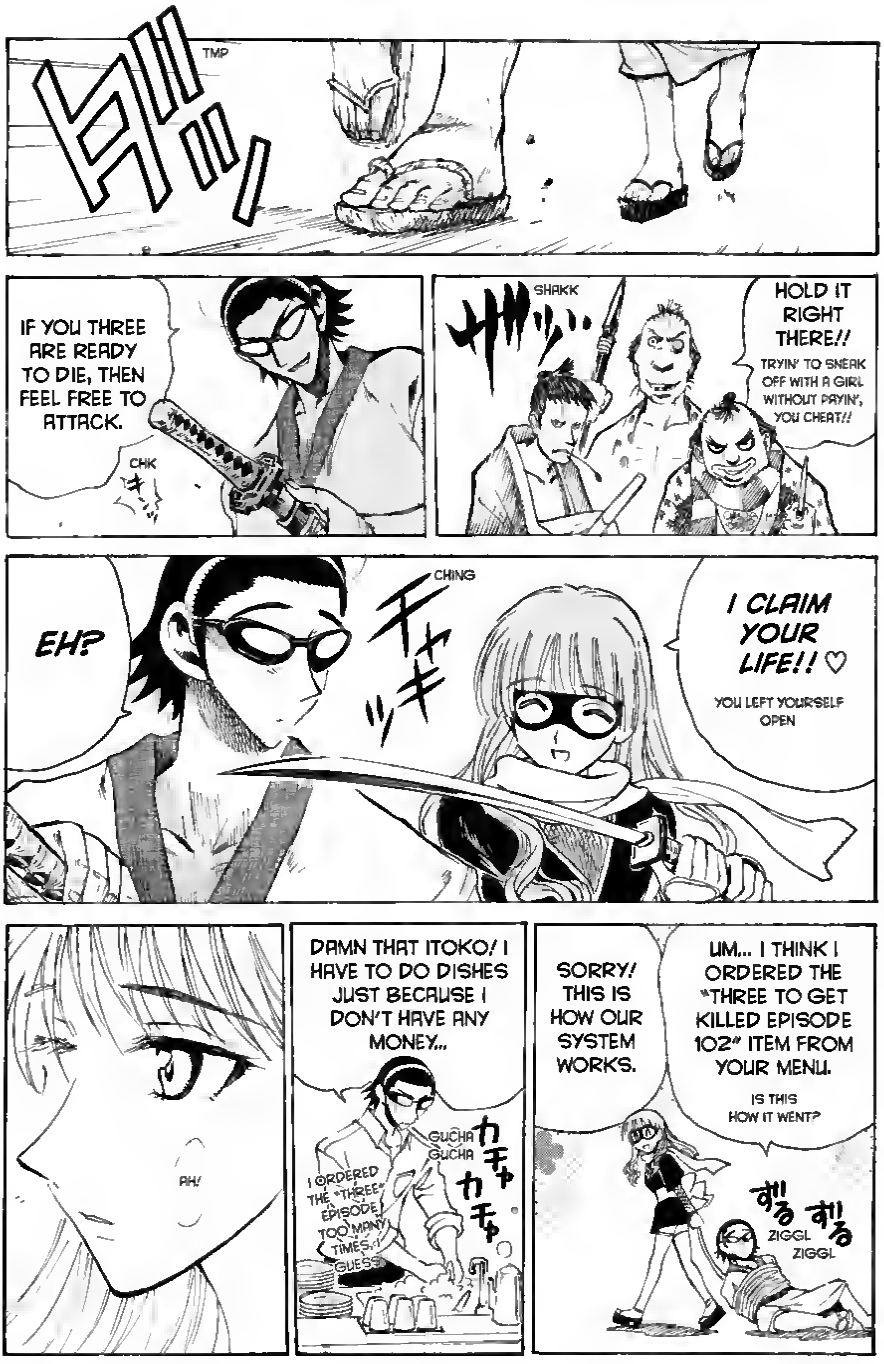
118 · · · · · · · · Fin

#119 A NOUS DEUX








TMP
IF YOU THREE ARE READY TO DIE, THEN FEEL FREE TO ATTACK.
CHK
SHAKK
HOLD IT RIGHT THERE!!
TRYIN' TO SNEAK OFF WITH A GIRL WITHOUT PAYIN', YOU CHEAT!!
EH?
CHING
I CLAIM YOUR LIFE!! ♡
YOU LEFT YOURSELF OPEN
AH!
DAMN THAT ITOKO! I HAVE TO DO DISHES JUST BECAUSE I DON'T HAVE ANY MONEY...
I ORDERED THE "THREE" EPISODE TOO MANY TIMES...! I GUESS
GUCHA GUCHA
SORRY! THIS IS HOW OUR SYSTEM WORKS.
UM... I THINK I ORDERED THE "THREE TO GET KILLED EPISODE 102" ITEM FROM YOUR MENU.
IS THIS HOW IT WENT?
ZIGGL ZIGGL

Harima Kenji: Mangoku (Normally Portrayed by Yakushamaru Kôji).

AH... SARAH... NO... IT'S NOTHING REALLY...
YAKUMO!! WHAT'S WRONG! YOU'RE LOOKING OUT OF IT!
TMP
I-I HAVE CUSTOMERS WAITING, SO I'LL BE GETTING BACK...
OH, IT'S HARIMA-SEMPAI, HUH?
HM?
N-NO...
I WAS JUST A LITTLE OUT OF IT.
E-EH?!
COULD YOU BE A WANDERER...?
!
SST
TH-THAT INFORMA-TION IS CONFIDEN-TIAL...
COME ON, MS. POLICEWOMAN, GIVE ME YOUR NUMBER.

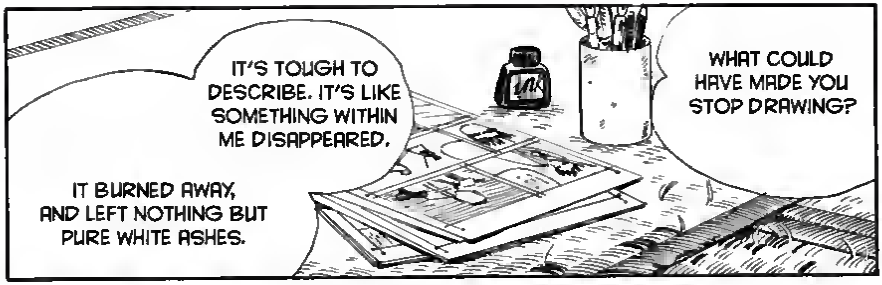
AH, I SEE! YOU ARE HERE TO HAVE THAT TERRIBLE CURSE REMOVED, AREN'T YOU?
HUH?!
THANK YOU FOR GRACING OUR CONGREGATION WITH YOUR PRESENCE.
WH-WHAT'S THIS?
WH-WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?! I'M NOT CURSED!!
S-SARAH...
IT'S THE CURSE THAT HAS KEPT YOU FROM HAVING A GIRLFRIEND, IS IT NOT?
FOR A FULL 17 YEARS SO FAR.
KH... !!
HOW DID YOU KNOW..?
SMILE
PLEASE BE AT EASE. IF YOU OFFER UP YOUR PRAYERS TO GOD, THEN YOUR CURSE SHALL BE LIFTED.
P-PLEASE!! I'LL PRAY TO GOD OR ANYBODY YOU WANT! JUST HELP ME!!
I'LL TAKE IT FROM HERE. YOU TAKE THIS, YAKUMO.
NOW'S YOUR CHANCE!!
SNEAK
EH...? BUT...
KISH
SHFF
ガサ
.....
WH-WHAT'S THIS...?

I WAS GOING TO RELIEVE YOU, BUT IF YOU'RE LIKE THAT...
HM...?
WHAT DO YOU WANT?!
YOU'RE PRETTY HAUGHTY FOR A MAID!
HEY, DISH-WASHER!
CHATTER
WHAT'S GOING ON?
CHATTER
BUT YOU'RE A SENSEI TOO... RIGHT?
HUH?
SENSEI IS WAITING IN THE BACK ROOM.
YE— ENTER!
KONK KONK
コン コン
TOKIHA SÔ...?!
IT'S PRETTY RUN-DOWN.
TOKIHA SÔ
ボロッ!!
CRUMBLE
TOKIHA SÔ
HM? SHE MEANS HERE?
'SCUSE ME...
KACHIK
カチャ!

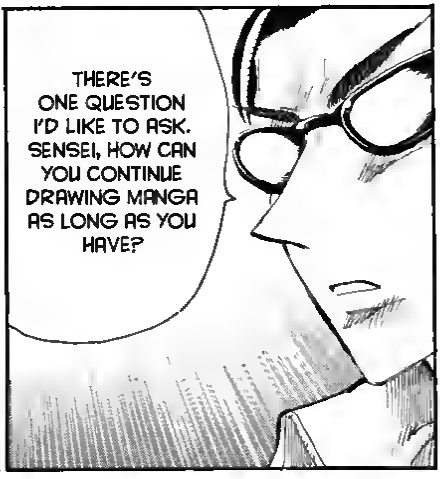
Tezukamoto Yakumo-sensei: First Appearance.

KRCHIK
カチャ…
そろ～
SSLN
I WOULDN'T IF I WERE YOU.
OH, BOY! OH, BOY!
I'LL GO TAKE THEIR ORDER!
NOW IT'S TIME FOR ME TO PEEK IN ON YAKUMO AND SEE HOW THEY'RE DOING!
HUSSSH
SKRITCH SKRITCH SKRITCH SKRITCH
もくもく
SILENCE SILENCE
EH?
..... VERY GOOD, SIR!
..... WE'LL HAVE BOILED CAB-BAGE.
GLEEEM
SENSEI, WHAT SHOULD WE DO ABOUT DINNER?
EH...? PAH, OF COURSE...
TH-THEN ORDER US SOMETHING, HARIMA-KUN...
EH...?
DON'T LET YOUR CHANCE SLIP AWAY, YAKUMO!
WHISPER..
AH! SARAH...
"WHAT"? WHAT I ALWAYS DO...
Y-YAKUMO, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

.....
IT'S A NICE, LIGHT MEAL...
THE TIMING IS PERFECT. LET'S REST FOR A WHILE.
YES, MA'AM!
.....
.....
NO! I JUST STARTED.
REALLY... HOW LONG HAS IT BEEN SINCE YOU FIRST STARTED DRAWING MANGA?
YOU SAID YOUR NAME WAS HARIMA-KUN, RIGHT?
HAVE YOU BEEN AN ASSISTANT LONG?
ABOUT THREE MONTHS.
BUT RECENTLY, I HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO DRAW MUCH.
HARIMA-SAN...


WHAT COULD HAVE MADE YOU STOP DRAWING?
IT'S TOUGH TO DESCRIBE. IT'S LIKE SOMETHING WITHIN ME DISAPPEARED.
IT BURNED AWAY, AND LEFT NOTHING BUT PURE WHITE ASHES.

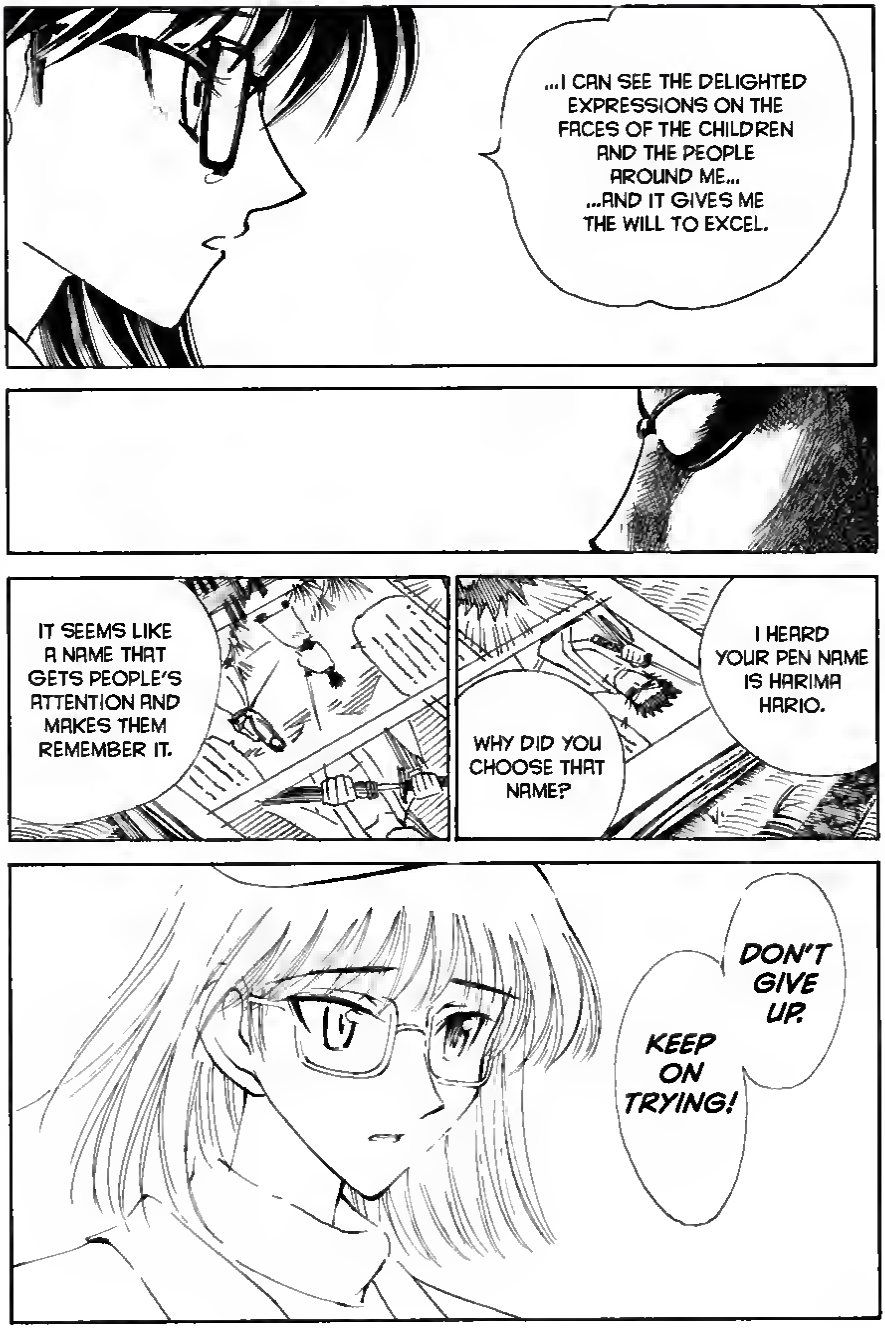
EH...?


THERE'S ONE QUESTION I'D LIKE TO ASK. SENSEI, HOW CAN YOU CONTINUE DRAWING MANGA AS LONG AS YOU HAVE?

...IS THAT I...

.....

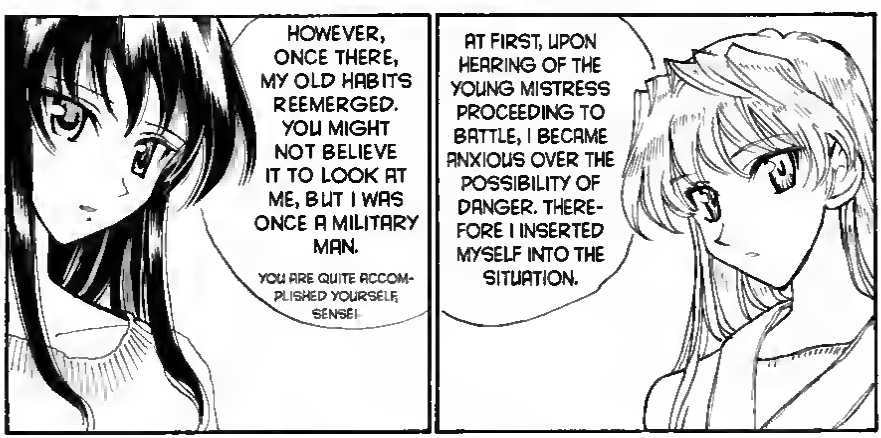
TH-THE REASON...


...I CAN SEE THE DELIGHTED EXPRESSIONS ON THE FACES OF THE CHILDREN AND THE PEOPLE AROUND ME...
...AND IT GIVES ME THE WILL TO EXCEL.
I HEARD YOUR PEN NAME IS HARIMA HARIO.
WHY DID YOU CHOOSE THAT NAME?
IT SEEMS LIKE A NAME THAT GETS PEOPLE'S ATTENTION AND MAKES THEM REMEMBER IT.
DON'T GIVE UP.
KEEP ON TRYING!

KNOCK KNOCK
コンコン
!
SENSEI, YOU'RE UP AGAINST YOUR DEAD-LINE.
I'LL HAVE IT READY IN JUST A FEW MINUTES...
E-EXCUSE ME...
EH...? BUT...
IT'S OKAY. GO AHEAD.
ME? I'M GOOD NOW.
WHERE IS YA-KUMO!!
WHY CAN'T I SEE HER?!
BAMM
PLEASE, SIR! YOU'RE DISTURB-ING THE OTHER GUESTS!!
A-ALL RIGHT. BUT I'LL BE RIGHT BACK.

HE ISN'T HERE...
カチャ...
KACHIK
HARIMA-SAN...
AH...
I'M GONNA DO IT!
TOMORROW IS ANOTHER DAY!!
GO FOR IT, HARIO!
★ TO BE CONTINUED ★
I WISH YOU THE BEST...
HARIMA-SAN...

119.....Fin


HOWEVER, ONCE THERE, MY OLD HABITS REEMERGED. YOU MIGHT NOT BELIEVE IT TO LOOK AT ME, BUT I WAS ONCE A MILITARY MAN.
YOU ARE QUITE ACCOMPLISHED YOURSELF, SENSEI.
AT FIRST, UPON HEARING OF THE YOUNG MISTRESS PROCEEDING TO BATTLE, I BECAME ANXIOUS OVER THE POSSIBILITY OF DANGER. THEREFORE I INSERTED MYSELF INTO THE SITUATION.

♭24 AN UNSUITABLE JOB FOR A WOMAN

DOOOM
YES... I WAS ON A SPECIAL MISSION TO A SMALL COUNTRY IN SOUTH AMERICA.
わあー
YEEAAH!
THEY CAN'T GET AT THE PRESIDENT NOW!!
THE PRESIDENT HAS BEEN MOVED TO A SAFE AREA!! WE'VE ACCOMPLISHED OUR MISSION!!
IT'S TOO DANGEROUS HERE!! THE COUP D'ÉTAT FORCES ARE CLOSING IN ON THE PRESIDENT'S RESIDENCE!!
WITHDRAW!! EVERYONE, WE'RE PULLING OUT!!
FOOLS! THEY DON'T REALIZE THEY'RE SIMPLY PAWNS OF A SUPERPOWER...
THE PRESIDENT'S LIFE IS ALL THAT MATTERS!! PULL OUT, EVERYONE!!
WHAT?!
HEY!! THERE'S STILL A KID IN THERE!!
DAMMIT!! THEY'VE SET THE RESIDENCE ON FIRE!!
WHOOM!

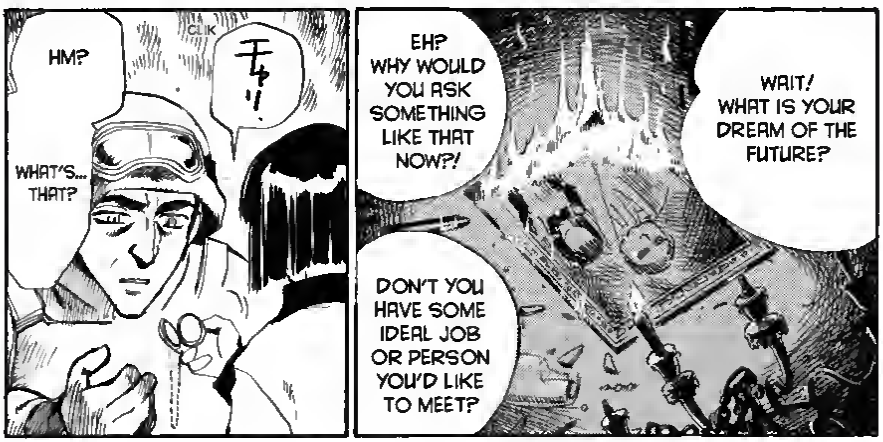
GWOOGH
ARE YOU DISOBEYING A DIRECT ORDER?!
G-GET BACK HERE !!
WHA-?!
SHKK
OUT OF MY WAY!!
.....
WHAT A TRAGIC WASTE...
.....?!
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?!
!!

KLIK KLIK
カチ
カチ
.....
IT'S
ALL RIGHT.
BLAMM

A...AAAAH!!
TWIK
KH...
KLATTER
PLIP
PLIP

IT'S ALL RIGHT!

IT'S TOO LATE! NOTHING CAN SAVE US NOW! BESIDES...
Y- YOU CAN'T...!

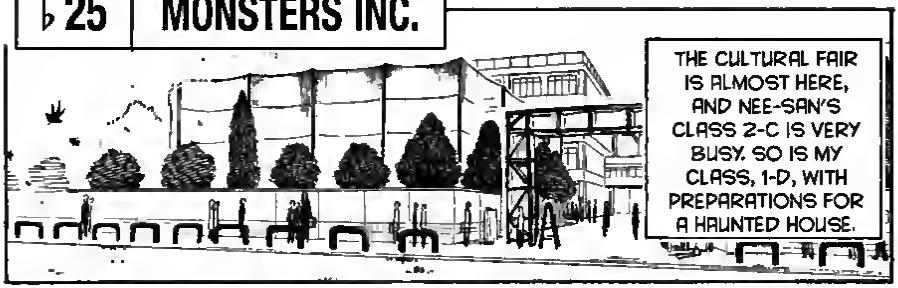

HM?
CLIK
WHAT'S... THAT?
EH? WHY WOULD YOU ASK SOMETHING LIKE THAT NOW?!
WAIT! WHAT IS YOUR DREAM OF THE FUTURE?
DON'T YOU HAVE SOME IDEAL JOB OR PERSON YOU'D LIKE TO MEET?

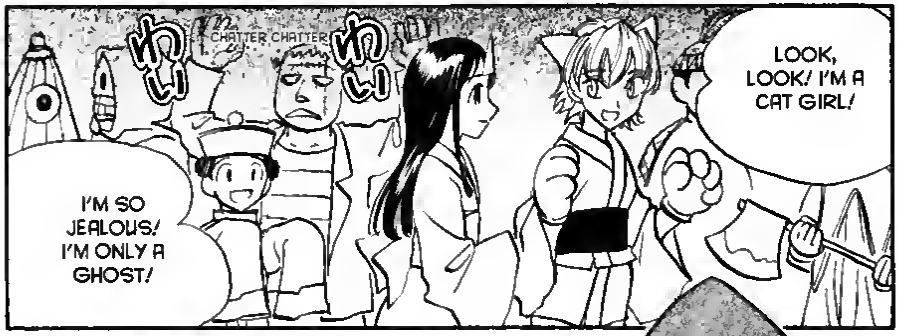
IS THAT YOUR MOTHER? I SEE... SHE MUST HAVE BEEN VERY KIND.
AND FIND A WAY TO BECOME A WONDERFUL PERSON, JUST LIKE YOUR MOTHER!
THEN YOU MUST LIVE! STAY ALIVE NOW, AND GO ON LIVING!
DOOM
LET'S GO... AND LIVE!!
I TOOK CHARGE OF THE CHILD'S WELFARE. EVEN NOW, SHE IS ONE OF THE FINE MAIDS ON THIS VERY ESTATE.
YES... THAT TRULY HAPPENED. AND IF YOU ASK WHAT HAPPENED TO THE LITTLE ONE...

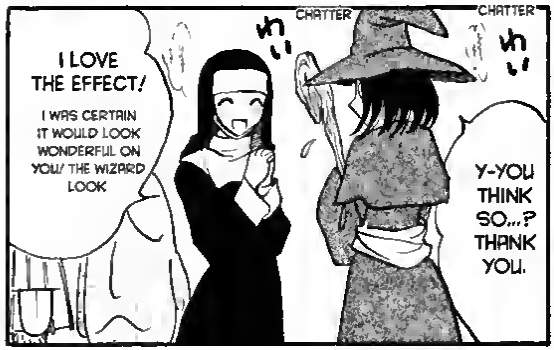
KNOCK KNOCK
HUSSH
I THOUGHT YOUR TEAPOT MIGHT BE RUNNING LOW ABOUT NOW.
AH... EXCUSE ME... I'VE BROUGHT TEA...
WE HAVE A GUEST, OSAKABE-SAMA. ONE OF THE YOUNG MISTRESS'S TEACHERS.
COME IN AND GREET THEM.
HEH HEH... YOU'VE GROWN INTO A MOST CONSIDERATE SERVANT. WE WERE SPEAKING OF YOU JUST NOW.
TH-THEN... IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME...
TUNK
NOW, DON'T BE AFRAID, COME IN.
HA HA! THE CHILD IS TOO EMBARRASSED TO BE SEEN BY GUESTS.
PERHAPS I WAS TOO PROTECTIVE.
EH? B-BUT I'M NOT WORTHY TO BE IN SUCH COMPANY...

MAY I INTRODUCE SUZUKI MISARU, OF WHOM I JUST SPOKE.
.....
MM.
.....
I'M GOING HOME! GET OUT OF MY WAY!
SHPP
BOW
NOW, SUZUKI. GREET OUR GUEST. IT REFLECTS BADLY ON ME FOR A MAN UNDER MY CARE TO BE SO BASHFUL. HA HA HA!
AH, OSAKABE-SENSEI, WHERE MIGHT YOU BE HEADING?

♭25 MONSTERS INC.







ONE, TWO, THREE...
HM?
MAYBE... .....
...ONE REAL MONSTER IS SNEAKING AROUND AMONG THE FAKES.
CHATTER
CHATTER?
HUH? THERE'S ONE MORE THAN THERE SHOULD BE. EVERY TIME I COUNT, IT DOESN'T ADD UP.
THAT JOKE WAS OLD AGES AGO!!
Haunted House Entrance
DON'T GIVE US THAT!!
IDIOT/
し〜〜ん
HUSSH
HEY!! NO SLACKING OFF!!
WE'RE TOO BUSY FOR THAT!!
EEK!!
SNEAK SNEAK
こそこそ
HAHH...
TONK TONK
コン

...WHEN GOING TO OUR MEETING PLACE.

I TOOK A WRONG TURN...

WHAT'LL I DO NOW...?

HE SAID A WHOLE BUNCH OF US WOULD BE THERE, AND I SAW A WHOLE BUNCH HERE, SO I JOINED THEM.

IT IS OUR FIRST TIME IN JAPAN.

THAT IDIOT FRANKENSTEIN WANTED TO SET UP A GOKON.

BUT... IT LOOKS LIKE MY SECRET'S SAFE FOR NOW.

EEEK!! I'M CAUGHT!! NOW THEY'LL FORM A MOB AND GET ME!!

BUT WHO'S THE ONE WHO'S SNEAKING IN HERE?!

THIS IS GOING TO BE TROUBLE!

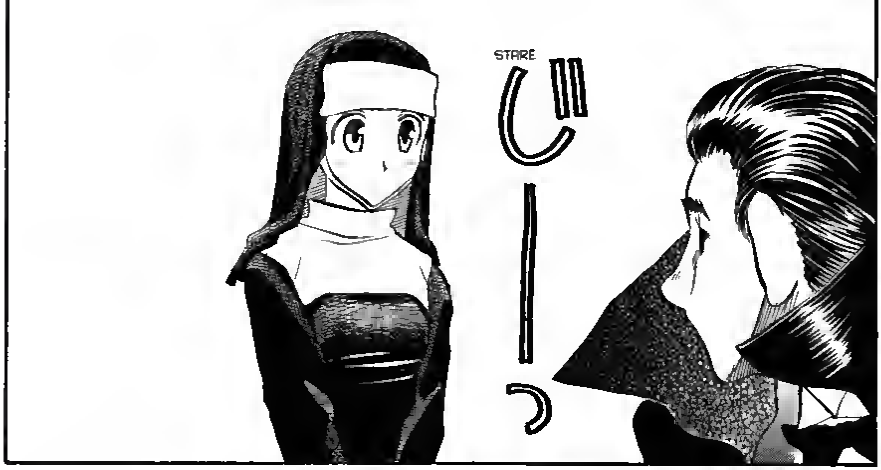
HA! FOOLISH MORTALS! ONE SUCH AS I HASN'T THE TIME TO WASTE ON YOU!

I MUST MAKE MY EXIT QUICKLY.

AH! I DON'T HANDLE STAKES VERY WELL.

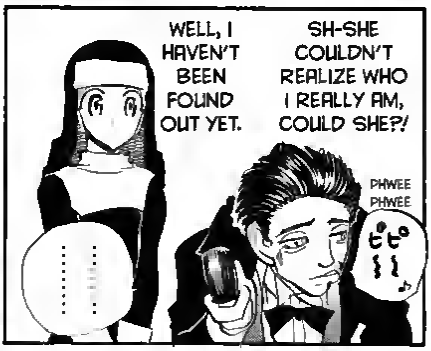
THEY HURT.

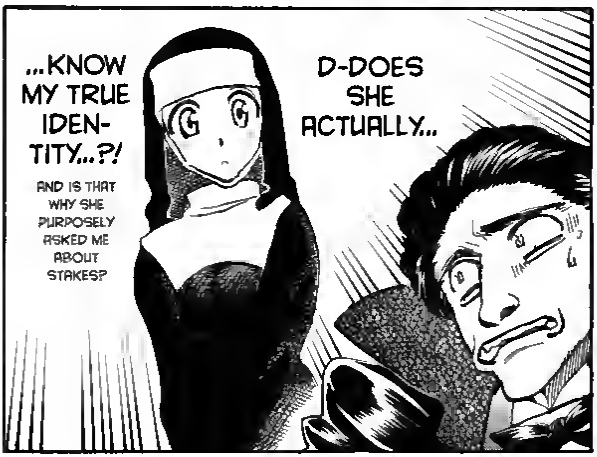
HEY, GRAB THOSE STAKES FOR ME, OKAY?

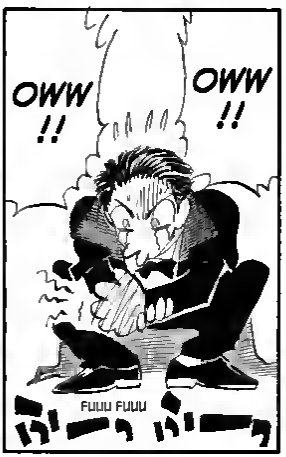

STARE

SHE'S BEEN STARING AT ME FOR THE LONGEST TIME!
WH-WHAT'S WITH HER?!

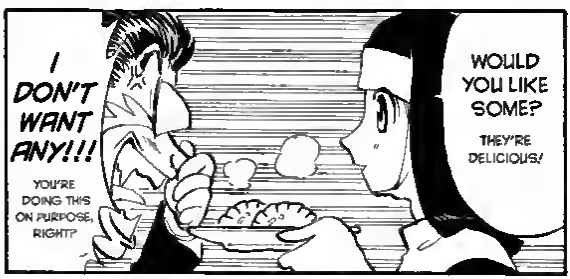
ARE YOU AFRAID OF STAKES?
BONK


WELL, I HAVEN'T BEEN FOUND OUT YET.
SH-SHE COULDN'T REALIZE WHO I REALLY AM, COULD SHE?!
PHWEE PHWEE


...KNOW MY TRUE IDEN-TITY...?!
AND IS THAT WHY SHE PURPOSELY ASKED ME ABOUT STAKES?
D-DOES SHE ACTUALLY...


OWW !!
OWW !!
FUUU FUUU

JUST WHAT WE'VE BEEN WAITING FOR!!
おお——!!!
WHOAA!!
SORRY TO KEEP YOU ALL WAITING!!
HERE'S MY SPE-CIAL GARLIC GYOZA FOR 40 PEOPLE!!


I DON'T WANT ANY!!!
YOU'RE DOING THIS ON PURPOSE, RIGHT?
WOULD YOU LIKE SOME?
THEY'RE DELICIOUS!

GLOOM
GAHH...!!!

THIS IS BAD! IF I STAY ANY LONGER, I WON'T LIVE THROUGH THIS!!

UH... SURE.
COULD YOU GET ME SOME STAKES... I MEAN NAILS?

AH! OKAY, SOME TOMATO JUICE.
CAN I GET YOU ANYTHING TO DRINK?

HE DOESN'T EAT.
HE JUST KEEPS ON WORKING.
I HAVE TO FINISH UP THEIR WORK AND GET OUT OF HERE AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE!!
HE'S A SERIOUS MAN.
THAT GUY.
カンカンカン!!
KANG KANG KANG

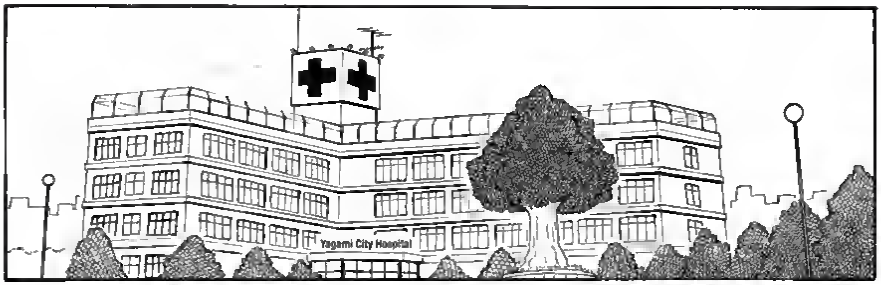
IT'S FINALLY ALL FINISHED!!
YES!! IT'S DONE!!
I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT WE WERE BUILDING, BUT NOW I CAN GO!!
AH... THANK GOODNESS!!
. . . . . .
WHUMP
A-ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?!
I-IT WAS A CROSS...

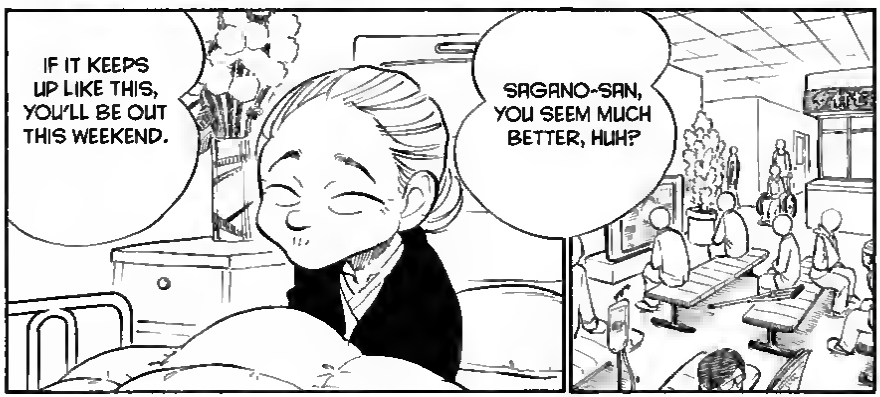
GRMPH
WHERE AM I?!
AH!!
Health Office
I'VE SEEN HER BEFORE... SHE'S SLEEPING?
KRNG

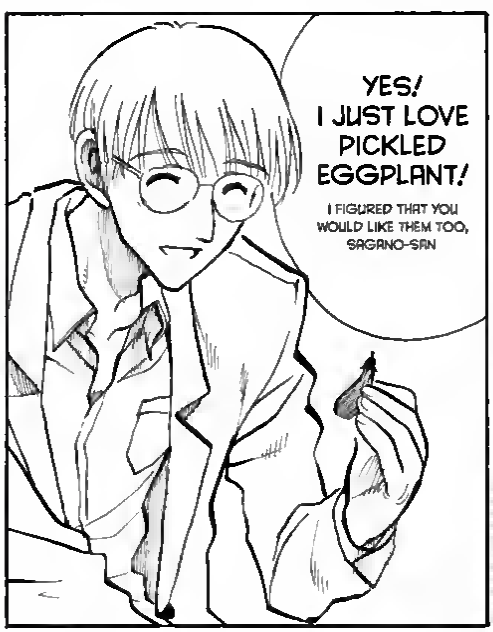
TOMATO JUICE?
YOU WERE WAITING ALL THIS TIME, JUST FOR ME?
ZZZZ
THEN I'LL TAKE THIS WITH THANKS.
AH...
I'M GLAD YOU'RE FEELING HEALTHY AGAIN.
GIVE MY THANKS TO THAT GIRL.
TELL HER THE TOMATO JUICE WAS DELICIOUS

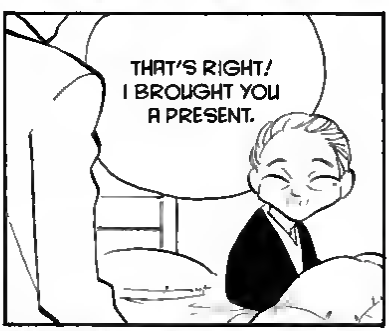
You're Forgetting Your Gyoza. (Sarah)

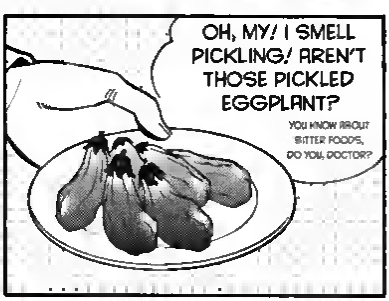
♭ 25 . . . . . Fin









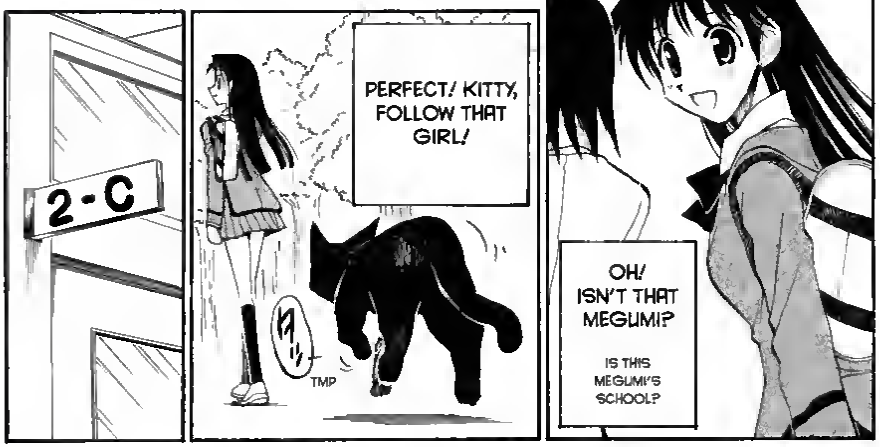


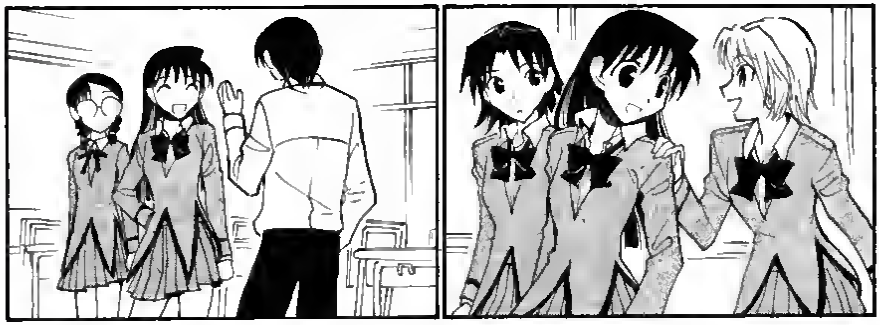
♭26 AMORE E CHIACCHIERE

THE DOCTOR HAS SOME AUSTERE HOBBIES, DOESN'T HE?
TRUE. HE'S A VERY KIND AND HARDWORKING DOCTOR!
BUT WITH HIS PERSONALITY, THERE AREN'T MANY PEOPLE HE CAN MESH WITH.
HE'S GOT A NICE FACE! I DON'T UNDERSTAND IT!
THAT'S SUCH A WASTE!
OH, MEGUMI! YOU'RE EARLY TODAY.
YEP! WE DIDN'T HAVE ANY BAND PRACTICE.
OBAA-CHAN!!
ARE YOU FEELING OKAY?
WOW! PICKLED EGGPLANT! IT LOOKS YUMMY!
MIND IF I HAVE ONE?

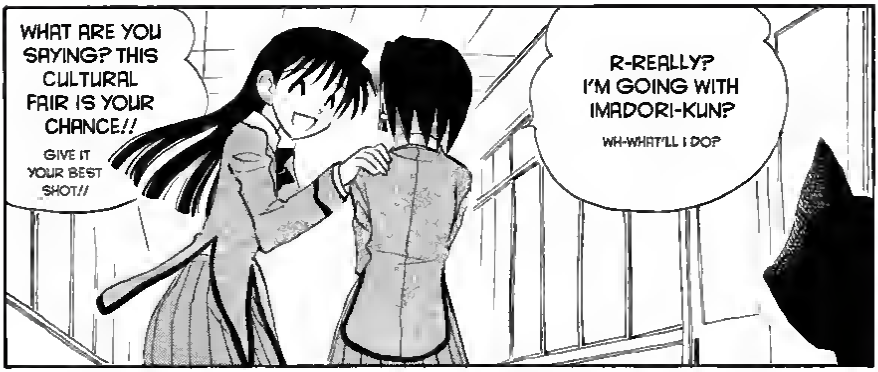
EH? NOPE.
NOBODY I'M INTERESTED IN.
BY THE WAY, MEGUMI, YOU'RE 17, RIGHT? DO YOU HAVE A BOYFRIEND?
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT, OBAA-CHAN? YOU'RE ABOUT TO BE RELEASED FROM THE HOSPITAL!
EVERYONE AT THE RESTAURANT IS WAITING FOR YOU TO COME BACK!
I DON'T HAVE MUCH LONGER. YOU'LL HAVE TO PUT MY MIND AT REST QUICKLY.
WHEN I WAS YOUR AGE, YOUR GRANDFATHER AND I...
HMM. AT THIS RATE, MY DREAM OF SEEING MEGUMI IN A WEDDING DRESS WILL STAY JUST A DREAM.
SO YOU STAY HEALTHY FOREVER! OKAY, OBAA-CHAN?!

NYAAN...
OH, WHAT'S A CAT DOING HERE...?
ARE YOU LOST?
I FEEL SO SLEEPY...
MMM... WHAT'S THIS ALL OF A SUDDEN...
WH-WHAT'S THIS?!
MM... WHERE AM I?!
I COULDN'T HAVE BECOME A CAT, COULD I?!


2-C
PERFECT! KITTY, FOLLOW THAT GIRL!
TMP
OH! ISN'T THAT MEGUMI?
IS THIS MEGUMI'S SCHOOL?

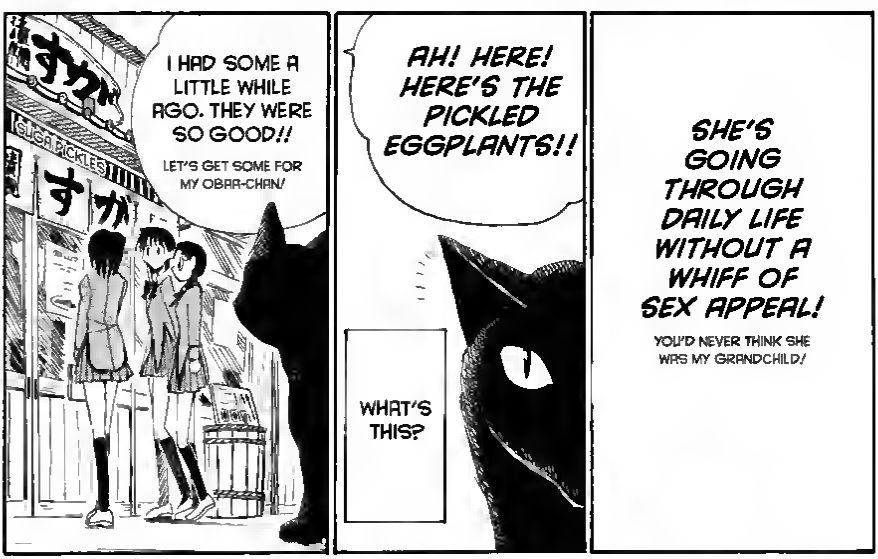


COULD IT BE A SECRET RENDEZ-VOUS?!
HUH? YOU'RE BUSY? HELP A GIRL OUT FOR JUST A LITTLE WHILE!
MEET ME IN 10 MINUTES AT THE ENTRANCE.
HELLO, IMADORI? I WANT YOU TO COME SHOPPING.
TWITCH
HM. I THOUGHT SHE MIGHT HAVE A LOT OF FRIENDS, AND IT LOOKS LIKE I WAS RIGHT.


WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? THIS CULTURAL FAIR IS YOUR CHANCE!!
GIVE IT YOUR BEST SHOT!!
R-REALLY? I'M GOING WITH IMADORI-KUN?
WH-WHAT'LL I DO?

GOOD GRIEF! GOING TO ALL THE TROUBLE FOR OTHERS WHEN SHE HASN'T EVEN TAKEN CARE OF HERSELF YET!
SHE REMINDS ME OF THE OPPOSITE OF ME!
IS THAT ALL? SHE'S JUST PLAYING MATCHMAKER FOR HER FRIENDS?

Yagami Ginza


I HAD SOME A LITTLE WHILE AGO. THEY WERE SO GOOD!!
LET'S GET SOME FOR MY OBAA-CHAN!
AH! HERE! HERE'S THE PICKLED EGGPLANTS!!
WHAT'S THIS?
SHE'S GOING THROUGH DAILY LIFE WITHOUT A WHIFF OF SEX APPEAL!
YOU'D NEVER THINK SHE WAS MY GRANDCHILD!

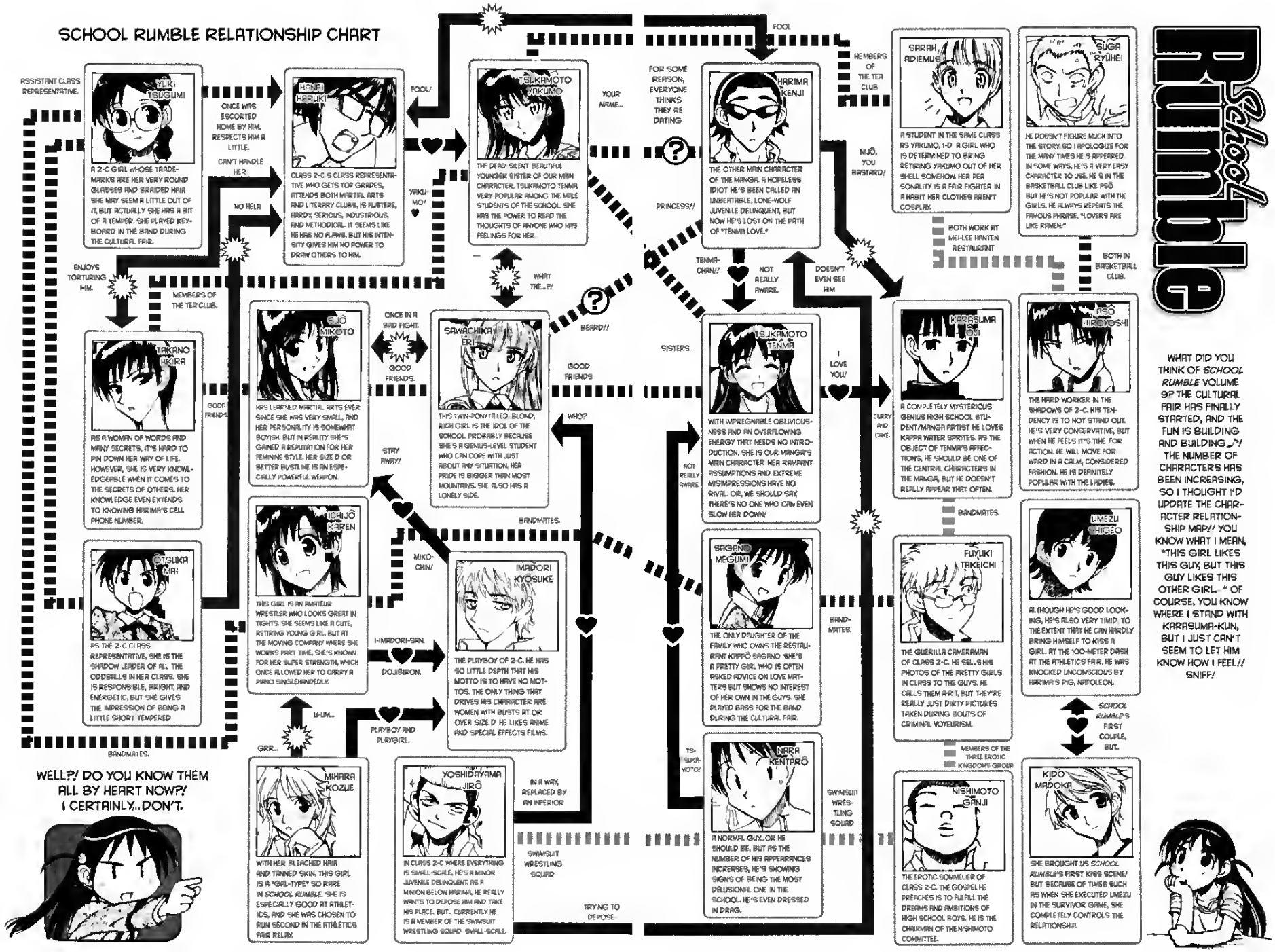
"YES! I JUST LOVE PICKLED EGGPLANT!"
TH-THAT'S IT!!
THE DOCTOR AND MEGUMI ARE PERFECT FOR EACH OTHER!!
I'LL HAVE TO CALL THE DOCTOR THE MINUTE MEGUMI BRINGS THE EGGPLANTS!
WH-WHAT?!
TOO BAD! THEY DIDN'T MAKE ENOUGH AND WERE ALL SOLD OUT!
I'LL GET THEM SOME OTHER TIME.
IT WAS THE PERFECT CHANCE TO PLANT A SEED OF LOVE!
THAT GIRL HAS NO LUCK AT ALL!
THK
BUT SHE'S SUCH A GOOD GIRL...
REALLY? THAT'S JUST A SHAME!
THEY WERE ALL OUT OF PICKLED EGGPLANTS.

SAGANO-SAN, I HAVE A PRESENT FOR YOU!
Suga Pickles
OH! THAT'S...
AHH!! IT'S THE PICKLED EGGPLANT THAT WAS ALL SOLD OUT!!
THESE PICKLED EGGPLANTS ARE JUST SO GOOD!!
DO YOU GO THERE OFTEN, DOCTOR?
Y-YES... WHEN I BOUGHT THEM, THEY WERE THE LAST ONES.
WITH PICKLING AND WITH LOVE, IF ONE DOESN'T INTERFERE...
...THAT'S WHEN THEY TURN OUT THE BEST.

TO BE CONTINUED IN VOLUME 10.

ORIGINAL BONUS MANGA

SCHOOL RUMBLE RELATIONSHIP CHART


YUKI TSUGUMI
A 2-C GIRL WHOSE TRADE-MARK'S ARE HER VERY ROUND GLASSES AND BRAIDED HAIR SHE MAY SEEM A LITTLE OUT OF IT, BUT ACTUALLY SHE HAS A BIT OF A TEMPER. SHE PLAYED KEY-BOARD IN THE BAND DURING THE CULTURAL FAIR.
ASSISTANT CLASS REPRESENTATIVE.
ONCE WAS ESCORTED HOME BY HIM. RESPECTS HIM A LITTLE.
CAN'T HANDLE HER
NO HELA
HANJI HARUKI
CLASS 2-C 'S CLASS REPRESENTA-TIVE WHO GETS TOP GRADES, ATTENDS BOTH MARTIAL ARTS AND LITERARY CLUBS, IS AUSTERE, HARDY, SERIOUS, INDUSTRIOUS, AND METHODICAL. IT SEEMS LIKE HE HAS NO FLAWS, BUT HIS INTEN-SITY GIVES HIM NO POWER TO DRAW OTHERS TO HIM.
FOOL!
YAKU-MO!
TSUKAMOTO YAKUMO
THE DEAD SILENT BEAUTIFUL YOUNGER SISTER OF OUR MAIN CHARACTER, TSUKAMOTO TENMA. VERY POPULAR AMONG THE MALE STUDENTS OF THE SCHOOL. SHE HAS THE POWER TO READ THE THOUGHTS OF ANYONE WHO HAS FEELINGS FOR HER.
YOUR NAME...
FOR SOME REASON, EVERYONE THINKS THEY'RE DATING
HARIMA KENJI
THE OTHER MAIN CHARACTER OF THE MANGA. A HOPELESS IDIOT HE'S BEEN CALLED AN UNBEATABLE, LONE-WOLF JUVENILE DELINQUENT, BUT NOW HE'S LOST ON THE PATH OF "TENMA LOVE."
FOOL
MEMBERS OF THE TEA CLUB
SARAH ADIEMUS
A STUDENT IN THE SAME CLASS AS YAKUMO, I-D. A GIRL WHO IS DETERMINED TO BRING RETIRING YAKUMO OUT OF HER SHELL SOMEHOW. HER PER-SONALITY IS A FAIR FIGHTER IN A HABIT HER CLOTHES AREN'T COSPLAY.
SUGA RYÛHEI
HE DOESN'T FIGURE MUCH INTO THE STORY. SO I APOLOGIZE FOR THE MANY TIMES HE 'S APPEARED IN SOME WAYS, HE'S A VERY EASY CHARACTER TO USE. HE 'S IN THE BASKETBALL CLUB LIKE ASÔ BUT HE'S NOT POPULAR WITH THE GIRLS. HE ALWAYS REPEATS THE FAMOUS PHRASE, "LOVER'S ARE LIKE RAMEN."
NIJÛ, YOU BASTARD!
PRINCESS!!
BOTH WORK AT MEI-LEE HANTEN RESTAURANT
BOTH IN BASKETBALL CLUB.
ENJOYS TORTURING HIM.
MEMBERS OF THE TEA CLUB.
WHAT THE...?!
TENMA-CHAN!!
NOT REALLY AWARE.
DOESN'T EVEN SEE HIM
TAKANO AKIRA
AS A WOMAN OF WORDS AND MANY SECRETS, IT'S HARD TO PIN DOWN HER WAY OF LIFE. HOWEVER, SHE IS VERY KNOWL-EDGEABLE WHEN IT COMES TO THE SECRETS OF OTHERS. HER KNOWLEDGE EVEN EXTENDS TO KNOWING HARIMA'S CELL PHONE NUMBER.
GOOD FRIENDS
SUÔ MIKOTO
HAS LEARNED MARTIAL ARTS EVER SINCE SHE WAS VERY SMALL, AND HER PERSONALITY IS SOMEWHAT BOYISH. BUT IN REALITY SHE'S GAINED A REPUTATION FOR HER FEMININE STYLE. HER SIZE D OR BETTER BUSTLINE IS AN ESPE-CIALLY POWERFUL WEAPON.
ONCE IN A BAD FIGHT.
GOOD FRIENDS.
SAWACHIKA ERI
THIS TWIN-PONYTAILED, BLOND, RICH GIRL IS THE IDOL OF THE SCHOOL. PROBABLY BECAUSE SHE'S A GENIUS-LEVEL STUDENT WHO CAN COPE WITH JUST ABOUT ANY SITUATION, HER PRIDE IS BIGGER THAN MOST MOUNTAINS. SHE ALSO HAS A LONELY SIDE.
BEARD!!
SISTERS.
GOOD FRIENDS
TSUKAMOTO TENMA
WITH IMPREGNABLE OBLIVIOUS-NESS AND AN OVERFLOWING ENERGY THAT NEEDS NO INTRO-DUCTION, SHE IS OUR MANGA'S MAIN CHARACTER. HER RAMPANT ASSUMPTIONS AND EXTREME MISIMPRESSIONS HAVE NO RIVAL. OR, WE SHOULD SAY, THERE'S NO ONE WHO CAN EVEN SLOW HER DOWN!
I LOVE YOU!
KARASUMA KYÔTÔ
A COMPLETELY MYSTERIOUS GENIUS HIGH SCHOOL STU-DENT/MANGA ARTIST HE LOVES KAPPA WATER SPRITES. AS THE OBJECT OF TENMA'S AFFEC-TIONS, HE SHOULD BE ONE OF THE CENTRAL CHARACTERS IN THE MANGA, BUT HE DOESN'T REALLY APPEAR THAT OFTEN.
CURRY AND CAKE.
ASÔ HIROYOSHI
THE HARD WORKER IN THE SHADOWS OF 2-C. HIS TEN-DENCY IS TO NOT STAND OUT. HE'S VERY CONSERVATIVE, BUT WHEN HE FEELS IT'S TIME FOR ACTION. HE WILL MOVE FOR WARD IN A CALM, CONSIDERED FASHION. HE IS DEFINITELY POPULAR WITH THE LADIES.
STAY AWAY!
WHO?
NOT REALLY AWARE.
BANDMATES.
ICHIJÔ KAREN
THIS GIRL IS AN AMATEUR WRESTLER WHO LOOKS GREAT IN TIGHTS. SHE SEEMS LIKE A CUTE, RETIRING YOUNG GIRL, BUT AT THE MOVING COMPANY WHERE SHE WORKS PART TIME, SHE'S KNOWN FOR HER SUPER STRENGTH, WHICH ONCE ALLOWED HER TO CARRY A PIANO SINGLEHANDEDLY.
MIKO-CHIN!
I-MADORI-SAN.
DOJIBIRON.
IMADORI KYÔSUKE
THE PLAYBOY OF 2-C. HE HAS SO LITTLE DEPTH THAT HIS MOTTO IS TO HAVE NO MOT-TOS. THE ONLY THING THAT DRIVES HIS CHARACTER ARE WOMEN WITH BUSTS AT OR OVER SIZE D. HE LIKES ANIME AND SPECIAL EFFECTS FILMS.
SAGANO MEGUMI
THE ONLY DAUGHTER OF THE FAMILY WHO OWNS THE RESTAU-RANT KAPPÔ SAGANO. SHE'S A PRETTY GIRL WHO IS OFTEN ASKED ADVICE ON LOVE MAT-TERS BUT SHOWS NO INTEREST OF HER OWN IN THE GUYS. SHE PLAYED BASS FOR THE BAND DURING THE CULTURAL FAIR.
BAND-MATES.
FUYUKI TAKEICHI
THE GUERILLA CAMERAMAN OF CLASS 2-C. HE SELLS HIS PHOTOS OF THE PRETTY GIRLS IN CLASS TO THE GUYS. HE CALLS THEM A-R-T, BUT THEY'RE REALLY JUST DIRTY PICTURES TAKEN DURING BOUTS OF CRIMINAL VOYEURISM.
BANDMATES.
LIMEZU SHIGEO
ALTHOUGH HE'S GOOD LOOK-ING, HE'S AL-SO VERY TIMID. TO THE EXTENT THAT HE CAN HARDLY BRING HIMSELF TO KISS A GIRL. AT THE 100-METER DASH AT THE ATHLETICS FAIR, HE WAS KNOCKED UNCONSCIOUS BY HARIMA'S PIG, NAPOLEON.
SCHOOL RUMBLE'S FIRST COUPLE, BUT.
OTSUKA MAI
AS THE 2-C CLASS REPRESENTATIVE, SHE IS THE SHADOW LEADER OF ALL THE ODDBALLS IN HER CLASS. SHE IS RESPONSIBLE, BRIGHT, AND ENERGETIC, BUT SHE GIVES THE IMPRESSION OF BEING A LITTLE SHORT TEMPERED
BANDMATES.
U-UM...
GRR...
PLAYBOY AND PLAYGIRL.
MIHARA KOZUE
WITH HER BLEACHED HAIR AND TANNED SKIN, THIS GIRL IS A "GAL-TYPE" SO RARE IN SCHOOL RUMBLE. SHE IS ESPECIALLY GOOD AT ATHLET-ICS, AND SHE WAS CHOSEN TO RUN SECOND IN THE ATHLETICS FAIR RELAY.
YOSHIDAYAMA JIRÔ
IN CLASS 2-C WHERE EVERYTHING IS SMALL-SCALE, HE'S A MINOR JUVENILE DELINQUENT. AS A MINION BELOW HARIMA, HE REALLY WANTS TO DEPOSE HIM AND TAKE HIS PLACE, BUT... CURRENTLY HE IS A MEMBER OF THE SWIMSUIT WRESTLING SQUAD. SMALL-SCALE.
IN A WAY, REPLACED BY AN INFERIOR
SWIMSUIT WRESTLING SQUAD
TRYING TO DEPOSE
TSUKAMOTO!
NARA KENTARÔ
A NORMAL GUY...OR HE SHOULD BE, BUT AS THE NUMBER OF HIS APPEARANCES INCREASES, HE'S SHOWING SIGNS OF BEING THE MOST DELUSIONAL ONE IN THE SCHOOL. HE'S EVEN DRESSED IN DRAG.
SWIMSUIT WRES-TLING SQUAD
MEMBERS OF THE THREE EROTIC KINGDOMS GROUP
NISHIMOTO GANJI
THE EROTIC SOMMELIER OF CLASS 2-C. THE GOSPEL HE PREACHES IS TO FULFILL THE DREAMS AND AMBITIONS OF HIGH SCHOOL BOYS. HE IS THE CHAIRMAN OF THE NISHIMOTO COMMITTEE.
KIDO MADOKA
SHE BROUGHT US SCHOOL RUMBLE'S FIRST KISS SCENE! BUT BECAUSE OF TIMES SUCH AS WHEN SHE EXECUTED LIMEZU IN THE SURVIVOR GAME, SHE COMPLETELY CONTROLS THE RELATIONSHIP.
WELL?! DO YOU KNOW THEM ALL BY HEART NOW?! I CERTAINLY...DON'T.
School Rumble
WHAT DID YOU THINK OF SCHOOL RUMBLE VOLUME 9? THE CULTURAL FAIR HAS FINALLY STARTED, AND THE FUN IS BUILDING AND BUILDING~♪! THE NUMBER OF CHARACTERS HAS BEEN INCREASING, SO I THOUGHT I'D UPDATE THE CHAR-ACTER RELATION-SHIP MAP!! YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN, "THIS GIRL LIKES THIS GUY, BUT THIS GUY LIKES THIS OTHER GIRL..." OF COURSE, YOU KNOW WHERE I STAND WITH KARASUMA-KUN, BUT I JUST CAN'T SEEM TO LET HIM KNOW HOW I FEEL!! SNIFF!

About the Creator

Jin Kobayashi was born in Tokyo. *School Rumble* is his first manga series. He has answered these questions from his fans:

What is your hobby?
Basketball

Which manga inspired you to become a creator?
Dragon Ball

Which character in your manga do you like best?
Kenji Harima

What type of manga do you want to create in the future?
Action

Name one book, piece of music, or movie you like.
The Indiana Jones series

Translation Notes

Japanese is a tricky language for most Westerners, and translation is often more art than science. For your edification and reading pleasure, here are notes on some of the places where we could have gone in a different direction in our translation of the work, or where a Japanese cultural reference is used.

Shônen Jingama, page 29

The manga magazine in which *School Rumble* is originally published is called *Shônen Magazine (Magajin)*. Harima's comic is called *Jingama*—a jumble of the syllables for *Magajin*.

Moving Castle, page 29

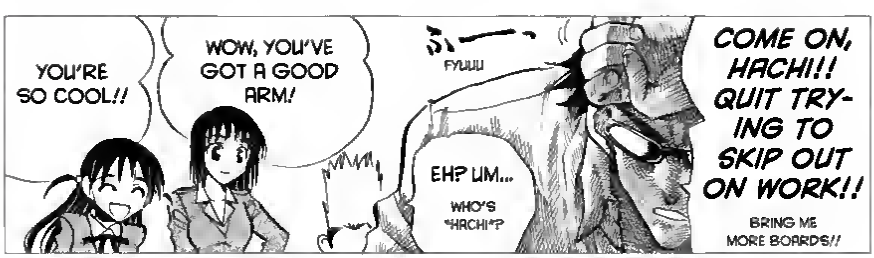
When the installments that were included in this volume were published in Japan, it hadn't been very long since Hayao Miyazaki's movie, *Howl's Moving Castle*, had been released. That is probably what Harima is referring to.

Kakesoba, page 44

Buckwheat noodles with soup poured over them.

Hachi, page 55

Hachi is a common name for underlings in Japanese period pieces (Warring States period or Edo period dramas). In the famous long-running period TV show, "Mito Kômon," the title character has an underling named Hachi.

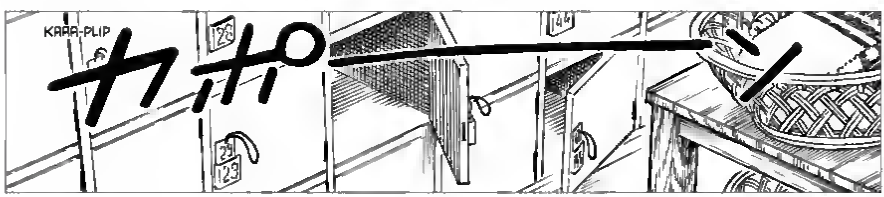

YOU'RE SO COOL!!
WOW, YOU'VE GOT A GOOD ARM!
FYUUU
EH? UM... WHO'S "HACHI"?
COME ON, HACHI!! QUIT TRYING TO SKIP OUT ON WORK!!
BRING ME MORE BOARDS!!

Public Baths, page 76

Although most houses and apartments come with their own baths, many of the poorer dwellings don't. For those residents, there usually is a public bath close by. For a small fee, one enters the baths (separate baths for each gender); removes one's clothing in a common changing area; goes to the faucets to wash oneself; and after thoroughly washing and rinsing, enters the large, swimming pool–sized tubs of very hot water.

Kaaa-plip, page 79

There is a distinct sound heard in a public bath: it's the sound of water that has condensed on the ceiling or overhead pipes dripping to the tiled floor below. Many associate that sound closely with the baths.



"Kandagawa," page 83

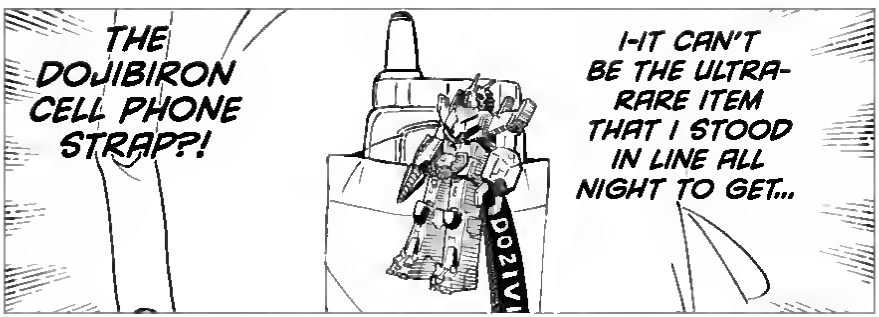
In 1973 the pop group Kaguyahime had a hit song called "Kandagawa." The first verse sets a scene of a couple of lovers living in a tiny one-room flat who have to go to the public baths to bathe. On a cold night, they enter the separate baths after agreeing to leave at the same time, but the woman leaves first and is chilled in the night air. The man comes much later wearing his red towel as a scarf, and comments gently on how the frosty air has turned her hair very cold. The romantic song made impoverished life very popular for a time.

Rice Balls, page 89

Rice balls (*onigiri*) are one of the easier-to-make Japanese dishes. Although they can be very elaborate, they may also consist of nothing more a ball of rice with a small bit of seaweed wrapping where a person can hold it.

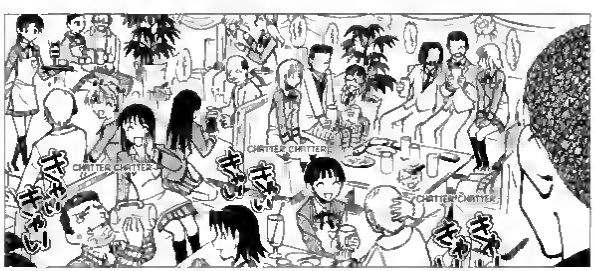
Dojibiron vs. "Dozivi," page 102

It is common for an anime series to have many official spellings, especially on merchandise for the anime show. In this scene, Nara's Dojibiron's strap has the letters "Dozivi," which is a fair transliteration of the first three syllables of Dojibiron. Until we see a definitive spelling, we'll keep using the direct transliteration of the title Dojibiron.



Hostess Bars, page 112

The café that class 2-C is running is based on the idea of a hostess bar, where men go to drink and be entertained by the conversation of the young women employed there. The most popular hostesses can make large amounts of money very quickly, but along with the money may come a lot of unwanted attention by the bar's clientele.



Mama, page 115

Mama is the title of female managers of nightlife bars and clubs (and other establishments). They are usually people who worked in similar establishments before running their own place, so they have a reputation for knowing the tricks of the trade. The scene that Akira Takano and Tenma are playing is common in dramas set in nightlife bars or brothels.

HEY!! WE REALLY NEED SOME HELP!!
IT'S BUSY OVER HERE!!
OH, MAMA!! I'LL NEVER SAY THE WORD "QUIT" AGAIN!!
FORGIVE ME!!
NEVER GIVE UP! YOU WILL BE THE BRIGHTEST STAR IN THE CAFÉ'S FIRMAMENT!

Master, page 116

The male owners of certain nightlife establishments are often called by the English word "Master." This title can extend to many other places of business as well, but is usually found in bars.

Tokiha Sô, page 127

Early in his career, the publisher of the great *manga-ka*, Osamu Tezuka, directed him to a vacant apartment in a run-down building called Tokiha Sô. Other soon-to-be-famous *manga-ka* also started living there, until it became something of a mecca for manga artists everywhere. Other famous residents of Tokiha Sô include Shôtarô Ishinomori (*Cyborg 009*), the *manga-ka* pair Fujio Fujiko (*Doraemon*) and Fujio Akatsuka (*Tensai Bakabon*) and many others.

Gokon, page 145

An arranged meeting between three to six girls and an equal number of guys as a sort of speed-dating ritual. See more on it in the notes for volume 4.

WHAT'LL I DO NOW...?
HE SAID A WHOLE BUNCH OF US WOULD BE THERE, AND I SAW A WHOLE BUNCH HERE, SO I JOINED THEM.
IT IS OUR FIRST TIME IN JAPAN.
THAT IDIOT FRANKENSTEIN WANTED TO SET UP A GOKON.

Gyoza, page 147

Usually called pot stickers in English, these pork-filled dumplings originated in China. Although the dish is usually boiled in China, the Japanese more often panfry them and serve them with several different sauces.

Kappô, page 153

Kappô is another word used for traditional Japanese cuisine. So any restaurant that uses the term *Kappô* is a Japanese-food restaurant.

Ginza, page 156

The Ginza is the most famous shopping district in Tokyo, and other smaller towns have borrowed the name for their own shopping districts. Whereas the Ginza is known for its high-ticket items, one will usually find more modest shops in the local shopping districts.

Name, page 161

The *name* that Yakumo refers to in regards to Harima is the rough drawing of a manga story that *manga-ka* use to show their editors how the manga installment will play out.

Gal-type, page 161

A certain fashion has been popular among urban Japanese high-school girls in the late '90s and early 2000s. It includes bleached-blond (or light brown) hair, very tanned skin (usually obtained through the use of cosmetics), and heavily applied makeup. The word for these girls is the English word "gal."